

# ORIGIN, PHYLOGENY AND CLASSIFICATION OF THE PHYLUM MOLLUSCA

## ORIGEN, FILOGENIA Y CLASIFICACION DEL PHYLUM MOLLUSCA

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**Key Words:** Origin, phylogeny, classification, Mollusca.

**Palabras Clave:** Origen, filogenia, clasificación, Mollusca.

### ABSTRACT

New investigations and insights of molluscan research with respect to origin, evolutionary pathways and systematic consequences are presented and discussed within the framework of previously advanced concepts. Due to their primitively aplacophoran configuration, their small size and lack of planktotrophy, it is demonstrated that the derivation of the Mollusca from a small, plathelminthomorph organisation becomes more and more plausible *versus* a coelomate origin. Several interdependent trends in organ elaboration allow the subsequent anagenetic differentiation and radiation within the phylum to be most consistently outlined along the successive levels of aplacophoran, polyplacophoran and monoplacophoran configuration; the higher Conchifera branch into the clades of Loboconcha (Bivalvia, Scaphopoda) and Visceroconcha (Gastropoda, Siphonopoda = cephalopods). The relevant main events and synapomorphies are presented and implemented in classification.

### INTRODUCTION

The molluscs are the third most numerous animal group (an estimated 50000 species; *cf.* BOSS, 1971, 1982) after the insects and vertebrates. Moreover, their evolutionary radiation brought about considerable diversification during phylogeny. This is systematically recognized today in the form of eight extant and several extinct classes within the three anagenetic levels of aplacophoran, polyplacophoran and monoplacophoran (= conchiferan) organization. Consequently, and because of the immense ecological and structural variability (body sizes range between 0.3 mm and 8 m), the phylum Mollusca can only be defined by the combination of several characters or even organ systems. In contrast to many familiar repre-

sentations dominated by conchiferan organization (in nearly all textbooks, *e.g.* Fig. 4), neither a shell or a distinct tripartition into head, foot and visceral body is characteristic for "the" molluscs (*cf.* SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1985). Rather, the Mollusca are defined as soft-bodied spiralian Gastroncuralia with<sup>(1)</sup> the dorsal epidermis (mantle or pallium) covered by cuticular and/or calcareous secretions;<sup>(2)</sup> the ventral body elaborated into a perioral head region and a ciliar to muscular locomotory organ;<sup>(3)</sup> a pallial cavity housing lamellate gills (ctenidia), a pair of mucous tracts, and the body outlets;<sup>(4)</sup> a tetra-neurous nervous system (though often concentrated) and a paired chemoreceptive (osphradial) sense organ;<sup>(5)</sup> a dominant dorsoventral muscle system;<sup>(6)</sup> a series of pharyngeal teeth (radula; though partly reduced);<sup>(7)</sup> a haemolymp-

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hatic body cavity; and<sup>(6)</sup> a gono-pericardial complex (often including an excretory system).

Another consequence of such diversity involves the recognition, reconstruction and interpretation of the origin, phylogeny and classification of the Mollusca. Historical preconceptions, the predominance of quantitative data in scientific studies or specific viewpoints of specialists and nonspecialists have constructively or misleadingly contributed to a manifold spectrum of in part controversial views. More recent information in different fields of malacology, however, allows us to outline the present status of knowledge and to arrive at a more accurate survey.

## A) ORIGIN

A long-lasting debate about the origin of the molluscan phylum focuses on the organization of the body cavity of the forerunners: Was it mesenchymate as in flatworms or was it of a coelomate (homogeneous or even segmented) construction? Which new arguments favour one or the other alternative? And what functional and/or ecological considerations can be contributed?

### 1) *General organization*

Earlier considerations in the direction of coelomate segmentation in molluscs have been discussed at length and refuted by HOFFMANN (1937). The discovery of living Tryblidia has renewed, however, the interpretation of primarily segmented Mollusca (LEMCHÉ & WINGSTRAND, 1959; GUTMANN, 1974; GÖTTING, 1980; WINGSTRAND, 1985; GIISELIN, 1988); this in turn was criticized and contradicted by VAGVOLGYI (1988), SALVINI-PLAWEN (1968, 1972, 1981a, 1985, 1988b), RUSSELL-HUNTER (1988) or WILLMER (1990). Accordingly, neither traditional views based on dated information, nor the serial repetition of various organs (mutually being out of a common phase), nor the organization of aplousophorous molluscs (widely neglected) favour the view of metameric molluscan ancestors. This argumentation is supported by the three following comparative aspects.

(1) More recent comparative studies of the primarily shell-less Caudofoveata and Solenogastres (summarized in SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1985) demon-

strated certain distinct trends in molluscan evolution: The Mollusca are characterized by an additive increase in complexity (by functional-morphological sequences) in the elaboration of the mantle cover, the musculature, the alimentary tract and of sensory organs (see below). These sequences interconnectingly reflect phylogenetic pathways (SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1981 a, 1985); they allow the establishment of the "lowest common denominator" of respective organ systems and enable basic molluscan organization to be traced.

(2) Rather than possessing a secondary body cavity (= body coelom), the Mollusca have a special gono-pericardium elaborated from part of the 4 d material in (function-conditioned) divergence to the body coelom in Echiurida-Annelida (cf. VAGVOLGYI, 1967; SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1968, 1972, 1981a; STASEK, 1972; CLARK, 1979; WILLMER, 1990). Also the molluscan pericardioducts cannot be homologized with coelomate metanephridia (cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN 1988 b), the more since the latter represent reorganized protonephridia (BARTHOLOMAEUS, 1990) primarily not existent in Mollusca. On the other hand, the body coelom as a hydrostatic organ is correlated with infaunal (burrowing) locomotion (cf. CLARK, 1964). In molluscs, however, conservative groups and/or those with small-sized animals generally show a muco-ciliary gliding; this contradicts a secondary body cavity (there is no requirement for it) and supports the gono-pericardium as a differentiation *suus generis* (cf. TRUEMAN, 1975).

(3) A locomotory body coelom is indicative of relatively large organisms; ciliary gliding in conservative or small-sized molluscs should therefore represent a secondary state (cf. GUTMANN, 1974) if they were of coelomate ancestry (as for example, in the 'archiannelids'). Depending on the weight of an animal in the external medium (mass/volume), the size limit for muco-ciliary locomotion ranges between "a few millimeters" and about 11 mm (TRUEMAN, 1975: 18-19). RUNNEGAR & POJETA (1985: 11-12) already emphasized the small body size of Cambrian conchiferan molluscs (e.g. the earliest bivalves *Pojetaja* = 1 mm, *Fordilla* = 2-5 mm), while CHAFFEE & LINDBERG (1986) demonstrated that early Cambrian Conchifera measured only 1-2 mm. Moreover, the Precambrian and early Cambrian Placophora described by YU (1987) from China were like-wise small (1.2

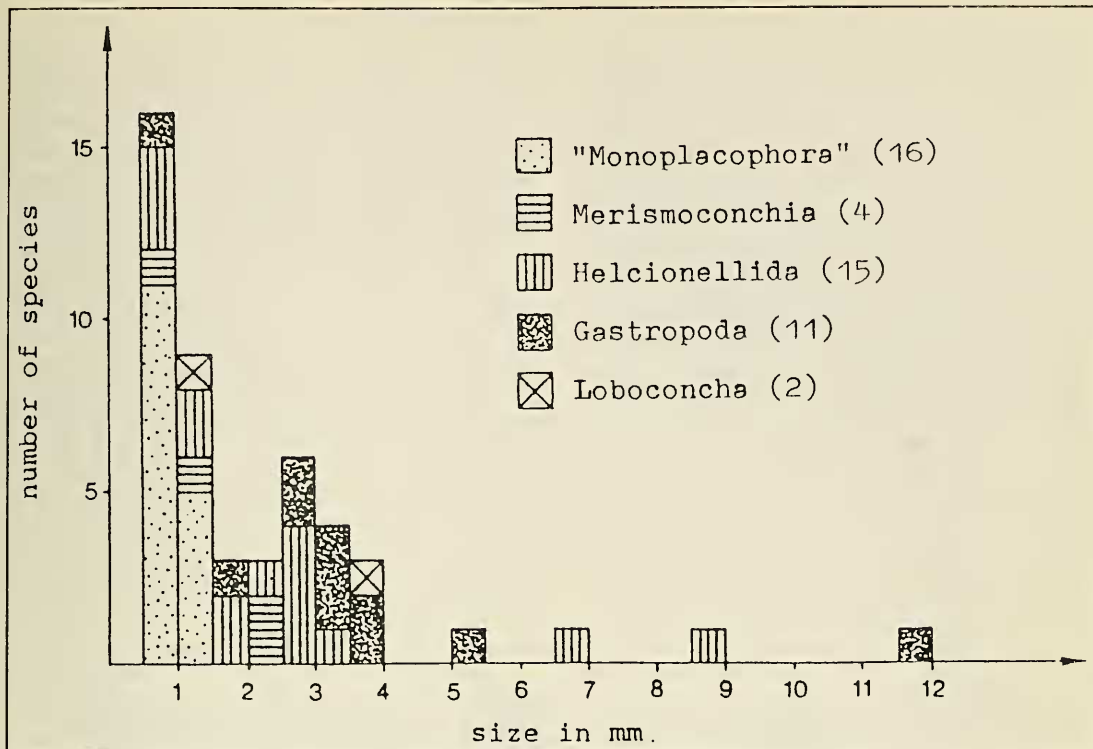


Fig. 1. Size distribution of the "Yangtze molluscan fauna" including 48 conchiferan species from earliest Cambrium (compiled by G. HASZPRUNAR according to data from YU, 1987; the maximum size of each species is provided).

mm - 5 mm); most conchiferan shells from the earliest Cambrium in China range between 0.5 mm and 4 mm (Fig. 1). Among extant molluscs, the most conservative members (order Pholidoskopia) of the muco-ciliary gliding Solenogastres predominantly include 1-4 mm long species.

## 2) Developmental characters

Developmental similarities such as spiral cleavage with cross formation ('molluscan' cross also in sipunculids), the elaboration of apical plate and trochi (see "Trochophora"), or the proliferation of ento-mesoblastic bands out of the 4 d blastomeres have often been interpreted as evidence for a common coelomate or even annelid ancestry of the molluscs. None of these characters, however, withstand critical scrutiny: these similarities are either valid for the common level of Spiralia or they turn out to represent functionally-conditioned convergencies (cf. VAGVOLGYI, 1967; SALVINI-

PLAWEN, 1968, 1972, 1980b, 1985, 1988b; WILLMER, 1990).

Planktotrophy in molluscan larvae is apparently secondary (convergencies). According to OLIVE (1985), planktotrophic development is ecophysiologically correlated with large bodies, if fertilization is external. External fertilization, again, is considered by FRANZEN (1956, 1970) and WIRTH (1984) to be the original condition in molluscs' ("primitive type" of sperm). The small size of early molluscs (see above) thus indicates that larval development (Fig. 2) proceeded from non-planktotrophic but lecithotrophic (see pericalymma and pseudotrochophora larvae) to planktotrophy and thus shows planktotrophic larvae (see rotigers, veligers) to be secondarily derived (CHAFFEE & LINDBERG, 1986).

Functionally-conditioned convergencies especially hold true for larval types, uncritically termed Trochophorae. It has been demonstrated (FIORONI, 1966, 1982; SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1972, 1980b,

1988b) that the Pseudotrochophora (or 'praeveligers') in Mollusca, the Trichosphaera in Sipunculida, and the true Trochophora in Polychaeta as well as Echiurida represent evolutionary successive, convergent organizations of a basic Pericalymma type of larva. These larvae —with apical plate and ciliary tuft— are characterized by a large epispachal cover (calymma) of ciliated cells which envelop the growing pre-adult organism. Termed test-cell larva in Mollusca (Fig. 2), Endolarva in Polychaeta, and serosa-larva in Sipunculida, they are primitively lecithotrophic, short-range larvae

without functional gut or anus (*cf.* CHANLEY, 1969; MINICHEV & STAROBOGATOV, 1972; SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1980b). In more advanced molluscs (Fig. 2), the cell-cover was successively reduced in convergence to a broad girdle of cells (Stenocalymma type) and to a prototroch (Pseudotrochophora, without nutritive metatroch; *cf.* also CHIAFFEE & LINDBERG, 1986). Finally, however, planktotroph nourishment was enabled by secondary velar enlargements: in Rotigers (autobranch Bivalvia) the nutritive ciliation is newly-formed (not derived from true trochus cells, *cf.* ERDMANN,

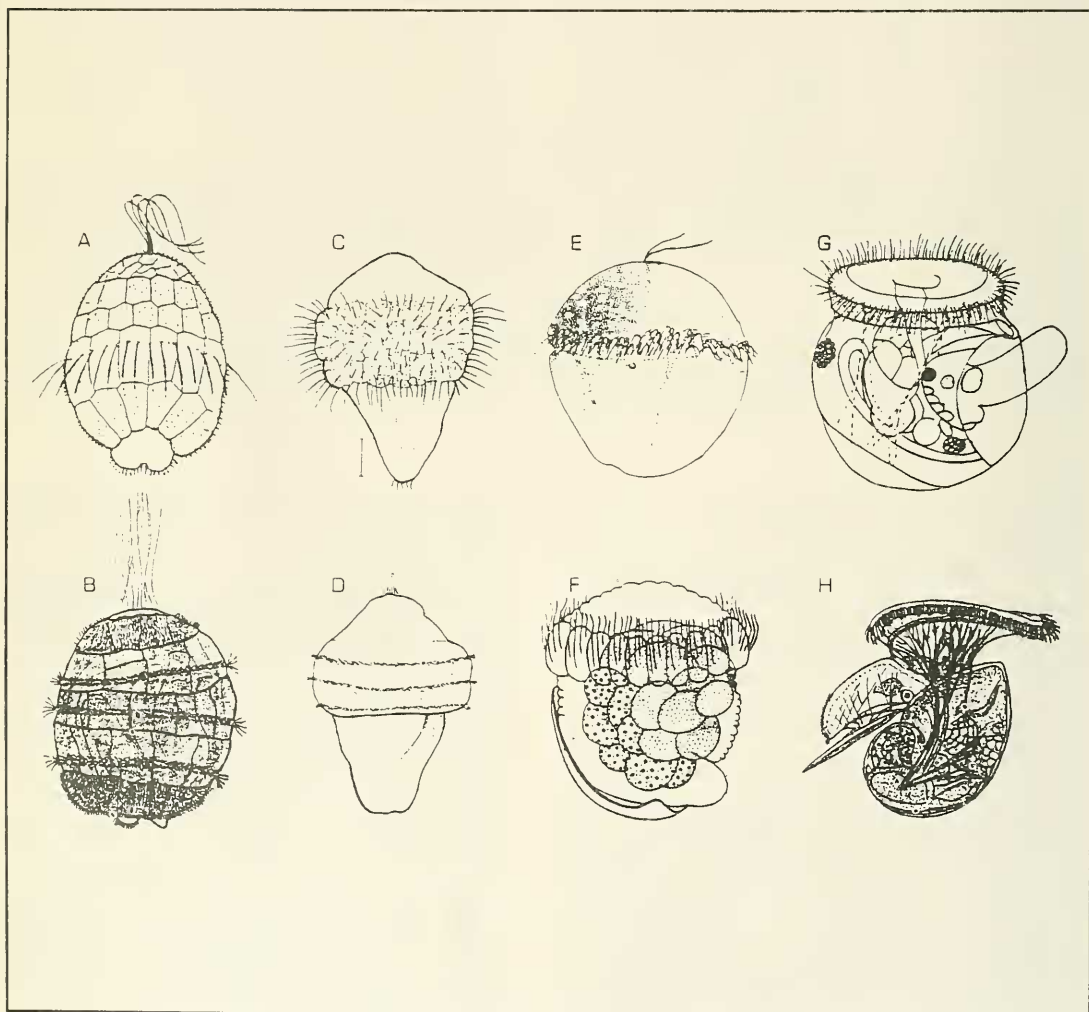


Fig. 2. Types of molluscan larvae. A & B - Pericalymma type/test-cell larva: A = *Neomenia carinata* (Solenogastres; after THOMSON, 1960); B = *Nucula proxima* (Bivalvia-Ctenidiobranchia; after DREW, 1901); C & D - Stenocalymma type: C = *Scutopus robustus* (Caudofoveata; courtesy of W. PEKNY, Wien), D = *Dentalium* (Scaphopoda; from KOWALEVSKY, 1883); E & F - Pseudotrochophora type: E = *Stenoplax heathiana* (Placophora; from HEATH, 1899); F = *Haliotis tuberculata* (Archaeogastropoda; after CROFTS, 1937); G = Rotiger larva of *Ostrea edulis* (Bivalvia-Autobranchia; after ERDMANN, 1934); H = Veliger larva of *Crepidula fornicata* (Caenogastropoda; from WERNER, 1955).

1934: Taf. 2, Abb. 4) and in Veligers (higher Gastropoda) the nutritive ciliation is part of the preoral prototroch (cf. WERNER, 1955: Abb. 8). In turn, in polychaetes the mouth opening obviously broke directly through the calymma, leaving the preoral ciliation as a locomotory prototroch and the resulting postoral ciliation of the calymma as a nutritive metatroch (SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1980b).

### 3) Palaeontology

There are no fossil records of Caudofoveata or Solenogastres. Owing to the purely aragonitic composition and rather delicate structure of the mantle scales and spicules in both groups, fossilization (with high pressures) of these elements may occur only under most favorable conditions. The trace fossil *Bunyerichnus dalgarnoi*, described from a 21-33 mm wide, ribbon-like trail with

median ridge and regular transverse grooves, obviously used "rhythmic muscular contractions" (GLAESSNER, 1969: 376-379). Such locomotory behaviour, however, is not related to Neomenioidea (= Solenogastres) as advanced by GLAESSNER, since Solenogastres exclusively employ mucociliary tracts. *Wiwaxia corrugata*, the sclerites of which suggest aplacophoran affinities and the feeding apparatus resembling certain gastropod jaws or nudibranch radulae (rather than primitive radulae, cf. p. 11), has also turned out to be no mollusc (RUNNEGAR & POJETA, 1985: 47; CONWAY MORRIS, 1985: 566-569; CONWAY MORRIS & PEEL, 1990). On the other hand, the Conodonta, interpreted by TILLIER & CUIF (1986) and TILLIER & JANVIER (1986) to represent buccal armatures (radula and "mandible") of Caudofoveata, show merely superficial similarities (BRIGGS *et al.*, 1987).

Other molluscs, i.e. both Placophora and Con-

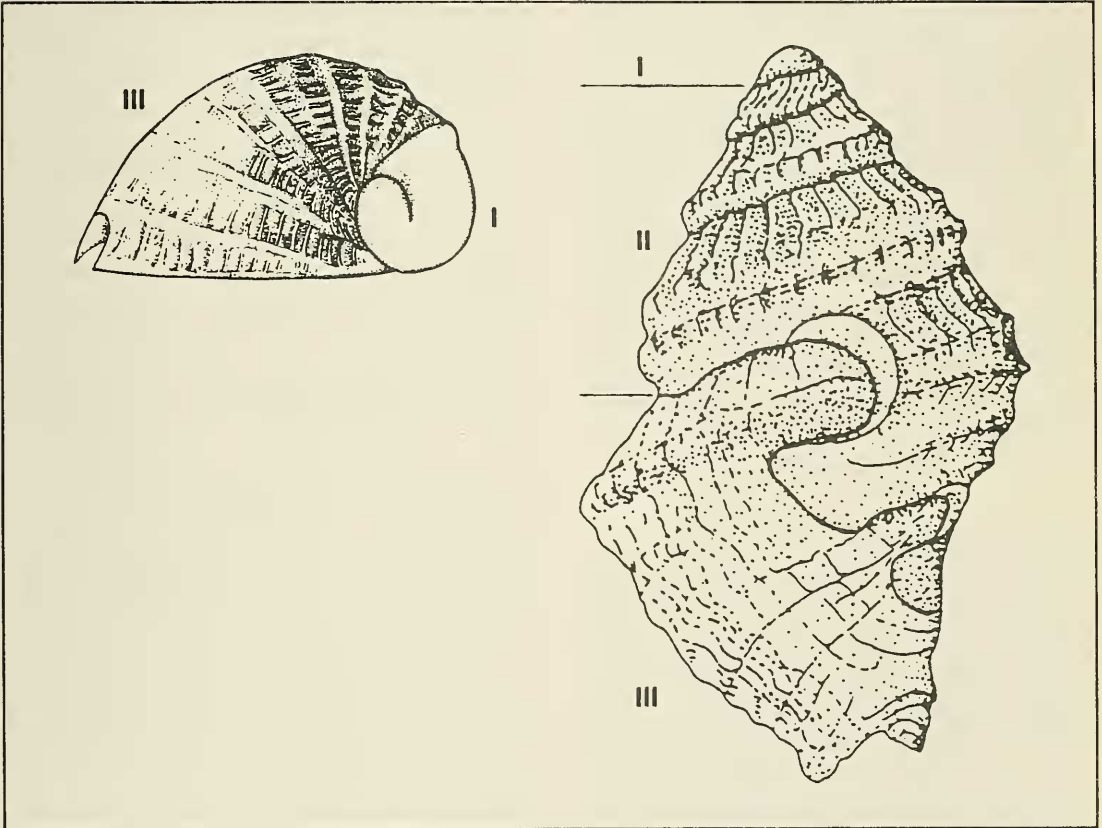


Fig. 3. Gastropod shells. Above = juvenile *Emarginula tuberculosa* (Archaeogastropoda-Vetigastropoda); to the right = juvenile *Thais haemastoma* (Caenogastropoda): I = embryonic shell; II = larval shell correlated to planktotrophy; III = adult shell (after BANDEL, 1982).

chifera, are represented in the fossil record from the earliest Cambrium, some 570-550 million years ago (RUNNEGAR & POJETA, 1985; YU, 1987). Apart from relationships and phylogenetic interconnections within the conchiferan classes, the fossil record provides little clue as to the origin of the molluscs or how the eight extant classes differentiated in Precambrian times. The frequent argumentation that the late stratigraphic occurrence of Placophora contradicts their primitiveness and their ancestry to conchifera has been annulled (*cf.* YU, 1987); this is also true of the discussion on the organisation of *Mathevia* as representing "the oldest chiton" (RUNNEGAR & POJETA, 1985: 46-47; SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1985: 111).

Due to preservation of embryonic and larval shells down to the early Triassic, however, the larval biology of Conchifera can even be traced in the extinct species (JABLONSKI & LUTZ, 1983; CHAFFEE & LINDBERG, 1986; LIMA & LUTZ, 1990): The elaboration of the concha begins with a small, cap-shaped primary shell (= embryonic shell = protoconch I = prodissoconch I), whose size is correlated to the amount of yolk in the egg (*cf.* SHUTO, 1974). A multi-whorled secondary shell (= larval shell = protoconch II = prodissoconch II), however, is only produced in organisms with larval planktotrophy (Fig. 3; *cf.* SHUTO, 1974; BANDEL, 1982). Since the tertiary shell (= adult shell = teleoconch), secreted during or after metamorphosis, is preceded solely by the primary/embryonic shell in members of primitive gastropod as well as early bivalve branches, it can be assumed that these extinct representatives likewise lacked planktotrophic larvae (see above).

#### 4) *The molecular approach*

At first glance, most of the above evidence seems to be contradicted by results of the molecular approach, especially those dealing with molluscs proper as in GHISELIN (1988). These investigations are based upon 18S rRNA molecules and propose an origin of the Mollusca from segmented coelomates (GHISELIN, 1988: Table 1). However, some data were eliminated as convergences because of morphological (!) evidence for monophyly of Mollusca, Arthropoda (*versus* MANTON & ANDERSON, 1979; or WILLMER, 1990), Echinodermata and Chordata (GHISELIN, 1988: 77/78).

Yet, what would have been the results if, for example, (a) the molluscs had not been regarded *a priori* as a natural group, or (b) the Articulata (Annelida + Arthropoda) or Deuterostomia in contrast had been handled as monophyletic groups? Thus, for some selected, traditionally monophyletic groups euphemistic premises are made, for others not. In addition, "no reliable evidence for a relationship among the Eutrochozoa" (i.e. annelids, sipunculids, and molluscs) was available, but at most "a sister-group relationship between Mollusca and Annelida s.l." with a possible synapomorphy for molluscs and sipunculids (GHISELIN, 1988: 79). The molecular data then would be consistent with the developmental characters presented above (*cf.* SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1988b). GHISELIN himself (1988: 79-81) discusses other possible alternatives. As a whole, the data by no means directly support the phylogenetic diagram presented by GHISELIN (1988: Table 1); rather, the latter appears to selectively include only those data agreeing with the author's views of (morphologically-based) relationships.

The mollusc results in the more general study by FIELD *et al.* (1988: Fig. 5) are those presented in more detail by GHISELIN (1988) and thus share the same problems. Other conclusions appear to be no more reliable, since they are all only based on a few percent differences in sequence divergence. Finally, recent investigations depreciate most phylogenetic reconstructions based on 18S rRNA sequences in taxa which "have diverged more recently than about 100 Ma", or at most up to 250 Ma (SMITH, 1989: 321). This excludes all relationships dating from the Paleozoic or even prior to the Cretaceous, i.e. the origins of all molluscan classes. The approaches to phylogeny using 5S rRNA (*cf.* HENDRIKS *et al.*, 1986) apparently suffer from similar problems and the fairly chaotic results have already been rejected by GHISELIN (1988: 74). GHISELIN (1988: 71) also points to the weakness of the sequence data of the cytochrome c molecule; this critique may also be applied to the model by BERGSTRÖM (1986; with extreme polyphyly of the body coelom), who likewise uses the problematic data of LYDDIATT *et al.* (1978). The structure of haemoglobine molecules and their occurrence (*cf.* TERWILLIGER, 1980) also provide no relevant information. The presence or absence of phosphogene molecules (WATTS, 1975) may

indicate a common ancestry for molluscs, sipunculids and annelids; neither these nor other biochemical data, however, have been helpful in tracing molluscan origin (*cf.* SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1988b; WILLMER, 1990: 78-87).

As a consequence, the molecular approach remains ambiguous or is even negative. This may either be due to a high rate of "convergent solutions to similar requirements for molecular functioning" at all systematics levels (WILLMER, 1990: 99), or it may reflect the sparse material investigated with respect to character hierarchy. Broader investigations beginning with sequences and structures of molecules in ecophysiologicaly different representatives of successive systematic categories (genera, families, orders, classes) are required to discover up to which hierarchic taxon the respective results are reliable (see also SMITH, 1989). Only such a wide-ranging spectrum for two or more phyla could reveal inter-phyletic relationships. Similar strategies involving character reliability in ultrastructural research have been highly informative with respect to the intra-phyletic frame (*e.g.* HASZPRUNAR, 1985b, 1987a-b).

### 5) Conclusions

Within the Gastroncuralia, the Mollusca share with some other Spiralia a pair of cerebral ganglia and longitudinal, medullar body nerve cords, a stomogastric system, spiral cleavage, or the blastomere 4 d proliferating the ento-mesoblast; such characters are therefore plesiomorphic. Closed relationships appear to exist with the Sipunculida (cross of blastomeres, larval calymma) and with the Echiurida-Annelida (SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1988b). In both cases this is, however (and in contrast to GHISELIN, 1988, for example), indicated only by the lecithotrophic Pericalymma type of larvae (and by cell-junctions? *cf.* GREEN & BERGQUIST, 1982), and is also consistent with the seriological results of WILHELM (1944). Such synapomorphies have no affect on the conditions of the body cavity in the adult — all the more since (as must be stressed) neither the small size nor the locomotory behaviour of the original molluscs favoured or even required a body coelom. Rather the muco-ciliary gliding, the mesenchymate construction including dorsoventral musculature, or the morphogenesis of the nervous system appear

to be plesiomorphically inherited characters from the plathelminthomorph level.

These conditions reveal that all coelomate Spiralia — as a monophyletic clade — represent the sister-group of the Mollusca (SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1988b). The coelomate clade (sipunculids, echiurids, and annelids; rather than annelids alone) most probably deviated by adapting to an infaunal manner of living (circular cross section, body coelom); this contrasts to the molluscan line, which retained the ciliary-gliding, mesenchymate organization but adapted the mantle cover.

## B) PHYLOGENY

During the last decades investigations on different aspects of molluscan biology, including studies on the primary shell-less groups, have also provided new insights into phylogenetic affinities. The most consistent item in this respect are functionally-orientated considerations, with a general withdrawal from a conchiferan archetype (though still propagated in text-books, see Fig. 4) and the discernment of an aplacophoran origin with differentiation on subsequent levels (*e.g.* YONGE, 1947 vs. STASEK, 1972). This stems from the insight that several sequences in elaboration of organ systems overlappingly determine the evolutionary direction of whole synorganized organization. In connection with molluscan origin, this allows the organization of the initial archimollusc population to be outlined (see Fig. 9) and anagenetic radiation of the phylum to be displayed.

### 1) Sequences in organ systems

New knowledge about the aplacophoran groups (summarized in SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1985) and the comparative re-evaluation of their organization has yielded important information on the evolutionary pathway of the Mollusca as a whole. This approach involves analyzing the configuration of these organ systems which underwent distinct sequences of modifications.

(a) The most obvious elaboration is the mantle (Fig. 5). It differentiated from an aculiferan configuration with a cuticular cover and embedded calcareous bodies, to an aculiferan mantle middorsally replaced by serial calcareous plates, to a

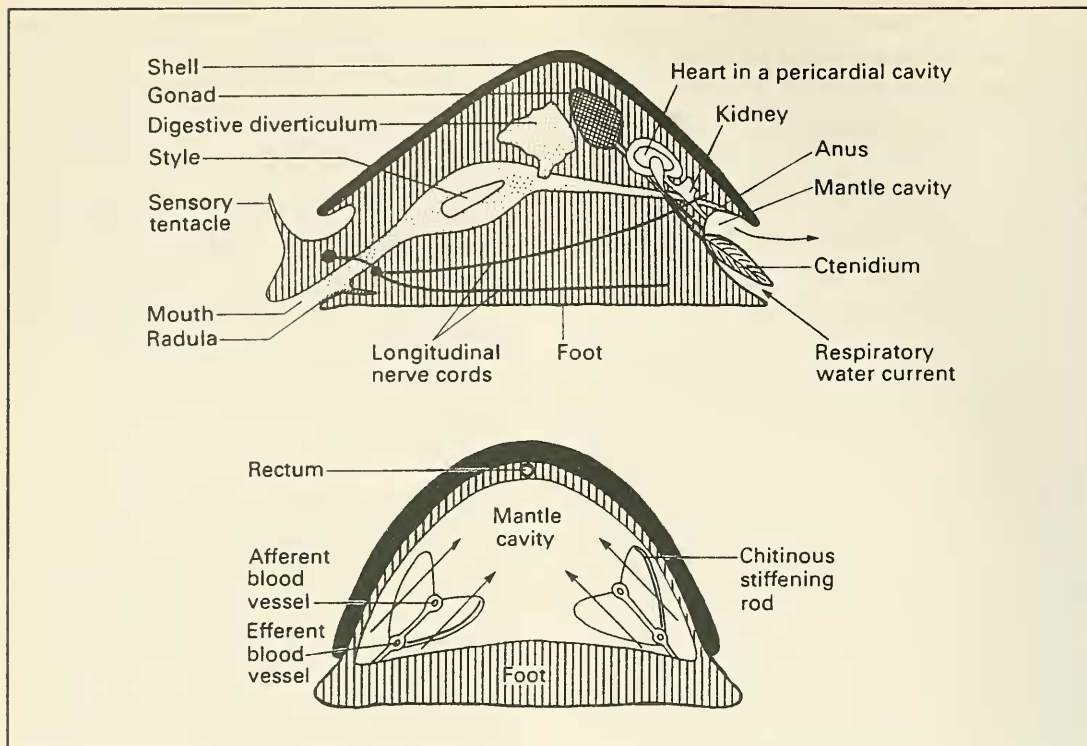


Fig. 4. "Generalized basic mollusc" (above = diagrammatic longitudinal section; below = cross-section through mantle cavity) after BARNES, CALOW & OLIVE (1988); this clearly refers to conditions based on gastropod characters only (cf. YONGE, 1947). In contrast, compare with Fig. 9.

mantle covered by a homogeneous shell (out of eight fused plates; cf. HAAS, 1981).

(b) The mantle in Caudofoveata and Solenogastres is equipped with epidermal papillae piercing the cuticle. Comparable mantle papillae exist as (photoreceptive) aesthetes and girdle papillae in Placophora. Several Conchifera of more primitive levels, however, possess also mantle papillae enclosed within the shell (cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1985: 115); this supports a hereditary condition.

(c) The mantle cavity primitively housed (one pair of) ctenidia, mucous tracts, and the body outlets (Fig. 5). The mucous tracts appear to be conservatively configured in Placophora, but are turned upside-down in Caudofoveata and internalized in Solenogastres (spawning ducts; cf. HOFFMAN, 1949). In primitive Bivalvia the configuration of the 'hypobranchial glands' corresponds to that in Placophora (Fig. 5), whereas the mucous tracts are somewhat restricted in Tryblidia, retain-

ed as nidamental glands in Siphonopoda (= cephalopods), and modified as hypobranchial glands at the roof of the mantle cavity in Gastropoda (see p. 16, and SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1972, 1981a).

(d) In all Mollusca the ventral body is subdivided by innervation into two regions, i.e. into a cerebrally-innervated perioral region and a ventrally-innervated pedal region.<sup>(1)</sup> In Caudofoveata the cerebrally-innervated post-oral epithelium forms a plate or shield (see p. 19) with sensory and gland cells, the latter opening intercellularly either in a scattered distribution (Fig. 6) or being concentrated along the shield margins. This corresponds to the condition of the ventrally-innervated locomotory surface in Solenogastres (Fig. 7) and might well represent the cerebrally-innervated, anteriorly separated and somewhat modified remainder of a previously extensive locomotory surface (cf. HOFFMAN, 1949; SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1972: 294-304, 1985: 66). The shield is provided with long inter-



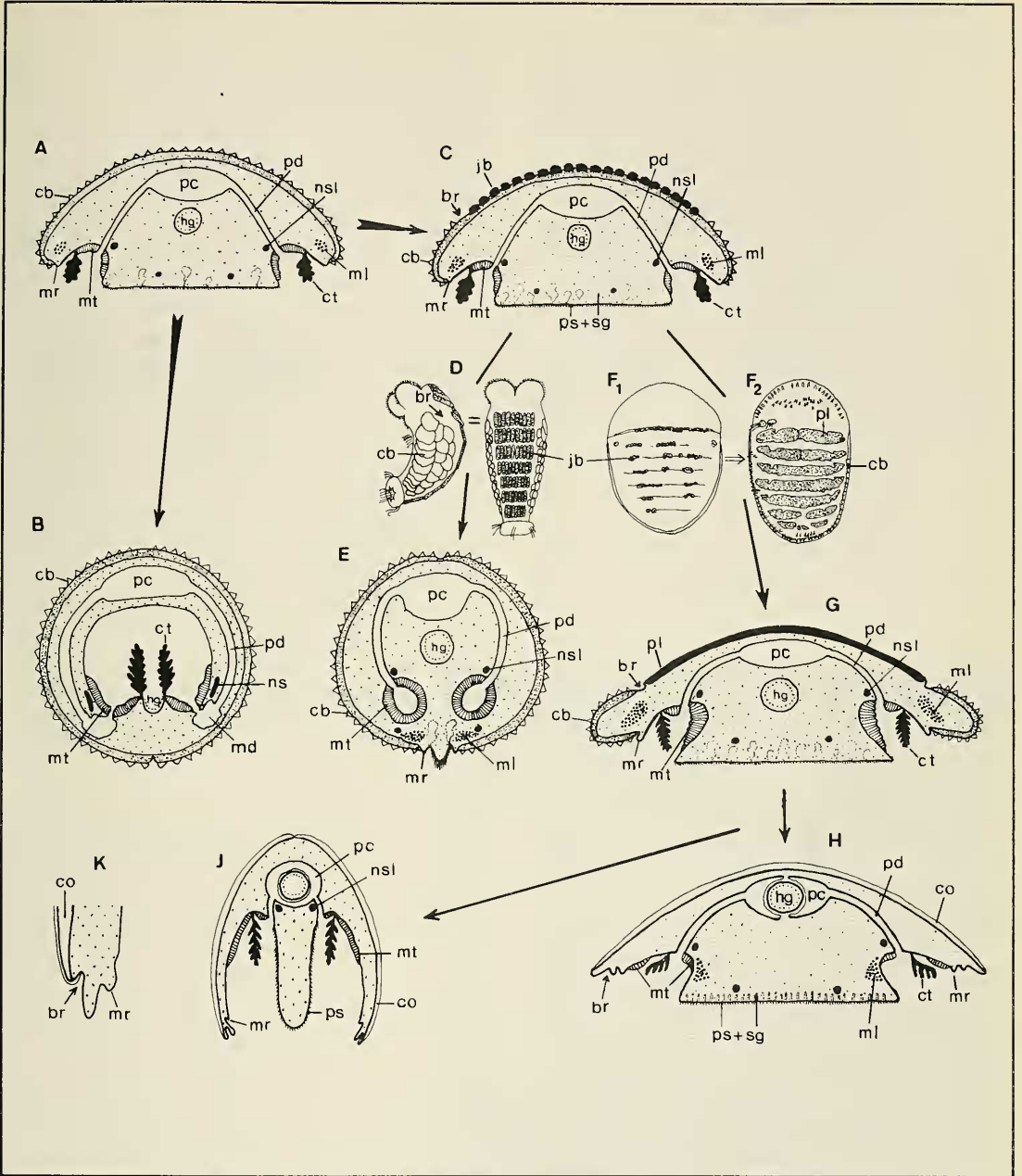


Fig. 5. Relationships among Mollusca according to the conditions of the mantle cavity, the mantle cover, and the pericardioducts (after SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1981a and 1985). A: Molluscan archetype; B: Caudofoveata; C: Heterotecta (common type ancestral to Solenogastres and Placophora); D: Solenogastres (late metamorphosis stage of *Nematomenia banyulensis* Pruvot); E: Solenogastres (adult); F: Placophora (two successive stages of just metamorphosed *Middendorffia polii* Philippi); G: Placophora (adult); H: Tryblidia; J: Bivalvia-Ctenidiobranchia; K: Siphonopoda (mantle border of *Nautilus*). (br = Break (= periostracal groove) between the mantle portion producing regularly-arranged calcareous bodies or valves or concha respectively and the peripheric portion which irregularly-arranged bodies or girdle or middle mantle fold respectively; cb = irregularly-arranged calcareous mantle bodies; co = concha (shell); ct = ctenidium; hg = hindgut; jb = calcareous bodies regularly-arranged in seven transverse rows; md = glandular duct; ml = longitudinal muscle; mr = mantle rim (inner mantle fold); mt = mucous tract; ns = (fused lateral and ventral) nerve cord; nsl = lateral (pleural) nerve cord; pc = pericardium; pd = pericardioduct; pl = valve (shell-plate); ps = pedal sole (foot); sg = sole glands).

digitating microvilli embedded in a granular, dense intercellular matrix or cuticle continuous with the foregut (SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1985: 66; TSCHERKASSKY, 1989: 254). However, since the fine morphology of the shield and foregut epithelia are distinctly different (SCHELTEMA, 1981: 363-364; TSCHERKASSKY, 1989) and since the presence of the cuticle is secondary, these conditions do not effect the possible homology of the shield with an anterior portion of former locomotory surface (*cf.* SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1981b: 401, in contrast to SCHELTEMA, 1981: 378, 1988: 61).<sup>(2)</sup> The ventrally-innervated pedal region in Solenogastres, Placophora and Conchifera is principally provided with an anterior pedal gland (funnel gland in cephalopods); this defines these groups as Adenopoda in contrast to the Scutopoda (Caudofoveata). Whether these conditions also refer to evolutionary levels (pedal gland as a true synapomorphic character for recent Adenopoda alone or for all Mollusca) cannot yet be accurately evaluated (see

also p. 19/20), since no organogenesis is known for Caudofoveata.<sup>(3)</sup> The peri-oral, cerebrally-innervated anterior region is differentiated in Testaria (Placophora and Conchifera) as a head. Only Conchifera, however, show head appendages (including the "cephalopod" arms, p. 20).

(c) Correlated to mantle cover changes, the musculature underwent a specializing restriction from the aplacophoran level (two or three-layered subintegumental system, longitudinal-marginal system enabling a rolling up, and serial dorsoventral system), to the polyplacophoran level (restriction of the subintegumental system to the intervalve bundles and the restriction of the dorsoventral system to  $8 \times 2 = 16$  pairs of bundles correlated to the eight mantle plates), to the level of Conchifera. The latter show a reduced subintegumental system, but the conservative Tryblidia still retain the paired longitudinal system (= *Musculus long. circularis pedalis*; *cf.* Fig. 5) and the octoseriate dorso-ventral musculature. Other Conchifera in-



Fig. 6. Part of cross section through the pedal shield of *Scutopus ventrolineatus* Salvini-Plawen (Caudofoveata; courtesy of M. TSCHERKASSKY, 1989). (ci = base of cilium; gc = epithelial portion of gland cell; mu = underlying musculature; mv = interdigitating microvilli; nu = nucleus; ol = outer layer of granular matrix, devoid of microvilli; rc = receptor cell; sf = supporting fibre; ve = vesicles in distal cell portion; bar = 5  $\mu$ m).

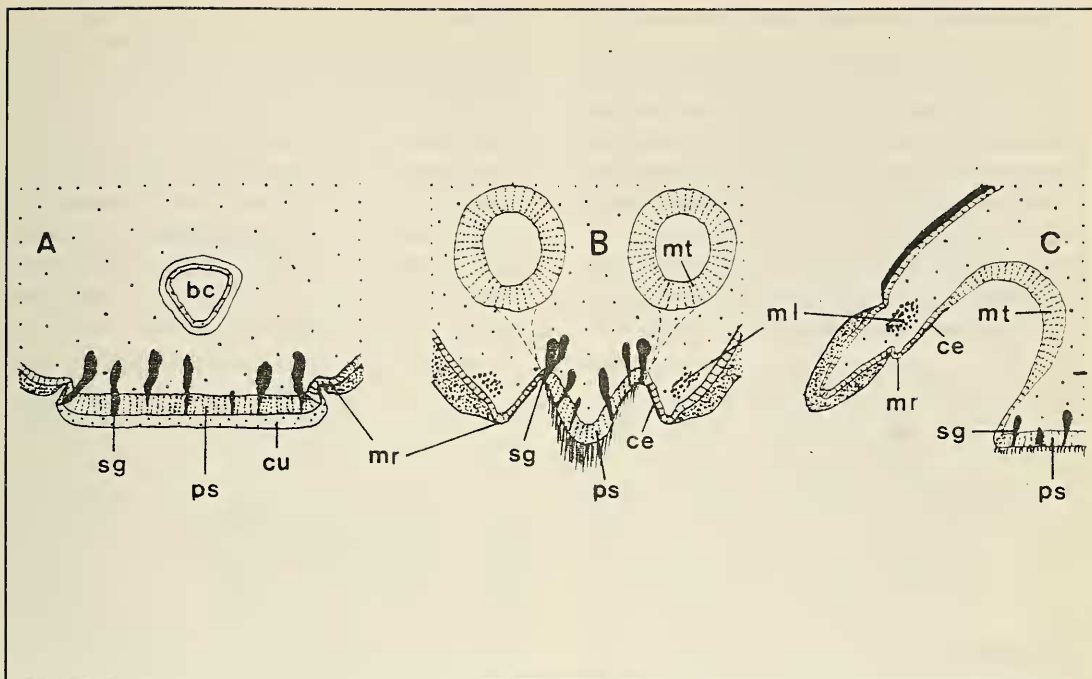


Fig. 7. Mantle rim and adjacent organs in *A* Caudofoveata (region of pedal shield), *B* Solenogastres (region of spawning ducts), and *C* Placophora (region of mucous tracts). (ce = purely microvillous epithelium of mantle groove; cu = layer of irregularly-arranged microvilli within matrix of glycoecolix (see Fig. 6); mr = mantle rim (inner mantle fold); mt = mucous tract of mantle cavity; ps = cerebrally-innervated pedal shield or ventrally-innervated pedal sole respectively; sg = pedalshield/sole glands).

creasingly concentrate or restrict the dorso-ventral musculature to form the foot/shell retractors, the spindle/columellar muscle, or the cephalopod funnel depressors and head retractors (*cf.* SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1981a, 1985).

(f) The original foregut was characterized by a radula apparatus and two sets of associated glands only (bucco-pharyngeal glands and a pair of organs ventral to the radula). The radula appears to have primitively represented a monoserial organ consisting of a pre-ribbon with a lateral, cusp- or hook- like thickening serially at each side. Only later occurred a separation into a distinct ribbon (radular membrane) and into the inserted pairs of teeth (distich type). The latter condition is more generally considered conservative in molluscs (*cf.* KERTH, 1983: 266; SCHELTEMA, 1988: 67; SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1988a: 355-359), and likewise suggests carnivorous nourishment. In the still carnivorous Solenogastres the differentiation only advanced to an intermediate configuration since the teeth are not yet structurally and formatively

separated from the pre-ribbon (rudimentary ribbon, "basal cuticle"; *cf.* SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1988a: 312 & 355-359; WOLTER, 1991; also KERTH, 1983: 252). In some Placophora the ontogenetic differentiation of the radula (*cf.* SIRENKO & MINICHEV, 1975) appears to recapitulate such an evolutionary pathway. On the other hand, the radular operation in Placophora, Tryblidia and Scaphopoda is of the 'stereoglossate' condition as in docoglossan gastropods (*cf.* WINGSTRAND, 1985; SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1988a: 359); other Gastropoda exhibit the more advanced 'flexoglossate' condition.

(g) The entodermal alimentary tract (Fig. 8) originally included a wide, uniform midgut, such as still present in the Solenogastres (SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1988a). The Caudofoveata deviated by the longitudinal subdivision of the posterior midgut into a slender intestine and a single, voluminous, ventral midgut sac. A new type of midgut is differentiated in Placophora: an oesophagus with paired pouch (so-called sugar gland), a stomach



(SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1985; TRUEMAN & BROWN, 1985; HASZPRUNAR, 1988: 404-405).

## 2) *The archimolluscan organization*

In concordance with the preceding argumentation and based on a broad comparative analysis of anatomical, ontogenetic as well as behavioural features (*e.g.* SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1972, 1985, 1988a; WINGSTRAND, 1985; HASZPRUNAR, 1988), the most primitive, "archimolluscan" configuration included the following characters (as "lowest common denominators") (Fig. 9):

(1) A fairly small body size (2-5 mm) whose ventral surface functioned as a muco-ciliary gliding organ;

(2) a dorsal body surface (mantle) covered with cuticle and unicellularly produced aragonitic, scaly bodies;

(3) the postero-lateral and terminal rims of the mantle delimit and roof an U-shaped groove (rather than a peripodal or purely terminal groove) — the mantle cavity; this is provided with high-prismatic, glandular epithelium (mucous tracts), with one pair of alternately lamellated ctenidia (without skeletal rods), and with body outlets;

(4) a non-segmented, mesenchymate body cavity including an open haemolymph circulatory system with dorsocaudal heart correlated with the single pair of ctenidia;

(5) three sets of main musculature: (a) a two — or three — layered subintegumental system below the mantle (thus lacking ventrally), (b) a paired submarginal-longitudinal system along the mantle rims enabling the organisms to roll up, and (c) a serial dorsoventral system including two pairs of bundles at each side, the lateral-lower ones intercrossing medially;

(6) a straight alimentary canal including a foregut with a monoserial-distichous radula apparatus for carnivorous nourishment and with associated paired glands; the voluminous midgut lacks separate digestive glands (but has, due to the serial dorsoventral musculature, slight ventrolateral pouches);

(7) paired lateral and ventral medullary nerve cords (amphineurous tetra-neury) emerging from a paired cerebral centre and provided with irregular interconnections including a supra-rectal commissure; a simple stomogastric/buccal nervous system;

(8) a terminolaterally innervated, chemoreceptive (osphradial) organ at the midposterior mantle rim (no other distinct sense organs);

(9) a dorsal pair of (gonochoristic?) gonads ontogenetically separated from the mesothelial pericardium. The condition of the primitive gonoducal outlets remains to be clarified: either via the pericardioducts, or by means of proper gonoducts at least functionally separated from the pericardium (in the latter case an original emunctorial function of the pericardioducts also remains to be verified, *comp. p. 17*);

(10) external fertilization with sperm of the primitive type with distal acron and five sphaerical mitochondria; indirect development by means of short-living, lecithotroph Pericalymma larvae (without ocelli, metatroch, or coelom rudiment).

## 3) *Emergence of molluscan configuration*

Such an original, small-sized organization of Mollusca (the 'archimollusc') was determined by comparatively considering all organ system and their interdependent coexistence (above, items 1-10). This enables the evolutionary emergence of the phylum as well as its anagenetic radiation to be outlined along continuous, functionally compatible pathways.

The acquisition of an alimentary tract with anus (a throughgut) appears to be advantageous as long as organisms remain small (*e.g.* Gastrotricha) and their organs (*esp.* nervous system and germ cells) receive enough dissolved metabolites (by means of an adjoining midgut filling most of the body as well as through a respiratory and filtering epidermis). Such basically plathelminthomorph, small, slow-moving and probably predacious (*see p. 11*) organisms with anus most probably lived in the aphotic, sublittoral benthos, since molluscs are basically devoid of photoreceptors, and ciliary bottom gliding functions in zones of moderate water movement only. Together with a stabilized body plan (bottom life habit, dorso-ventrality, shape), they developed a dorsal cuticular cover for protection; this differs from general glyco-calyx secretion (which allows regulative exchange of dissolved organic matter: DOM; *cf.* RIEGER, 1984). This doubtlessly impaired metabolic efficiency locally, a condition counteracted by the enlargement of the (posterior-)lateral body areas free of

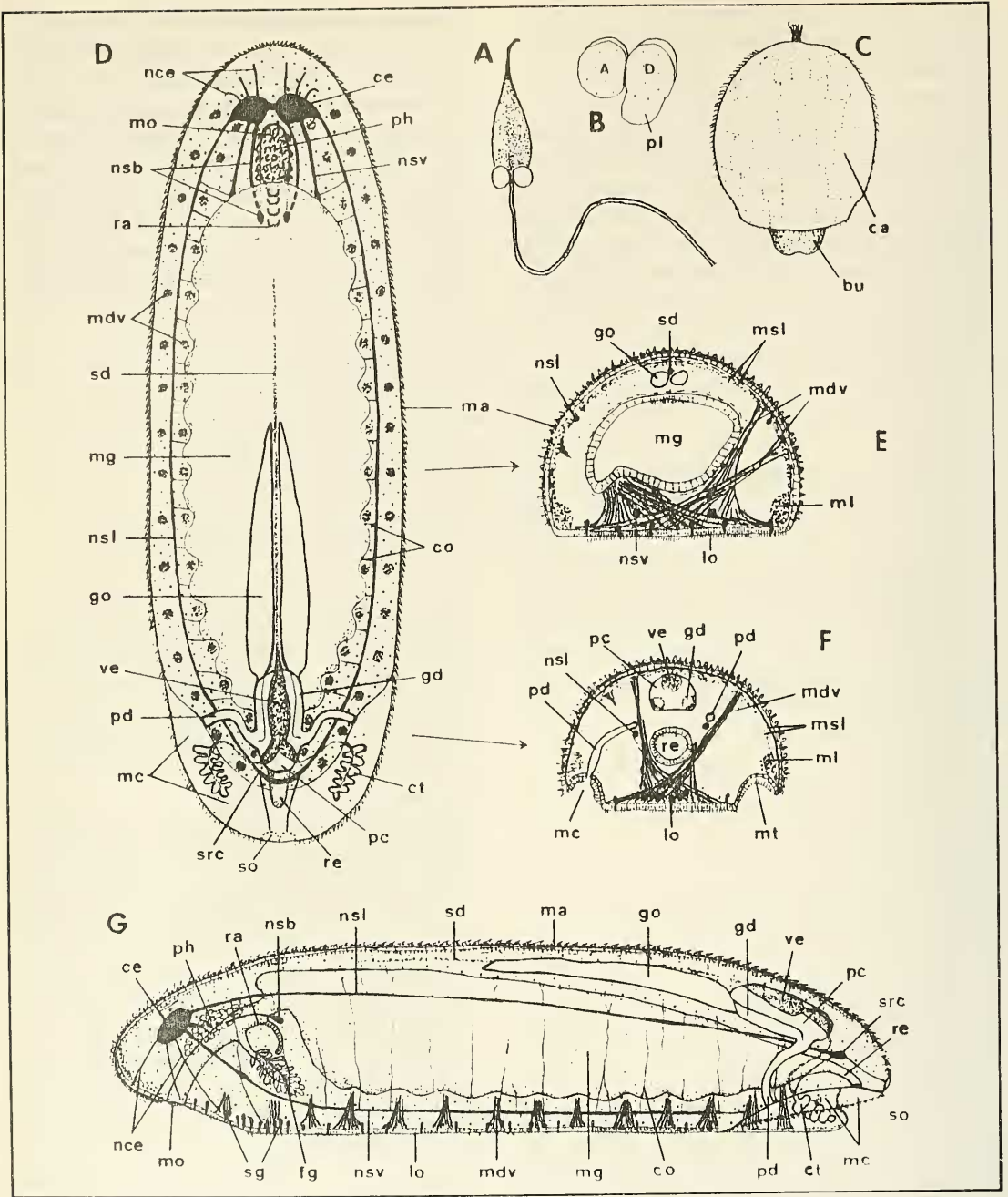


Fig. 9. Most likely organization of molluscan archetypal. *A*: Spermatozoon of the so-called primitive type with apical densetube, distal acrosome and five spherical mitochondria; *B*: fourcell stage of cleavage with polar lobe; *C*: Pericalymma larva; *D*: adult organization in dorsal view; *E* & *F*: cross sections as indicated by arrows; *G*: adult organization in lateral view from the left side. (bu = bud of pre-adult organism; ca = calymma (larval test); ce = cerebral ganglion; co = lateroventral connective; ct = ctenidium; fg = ventral foregut gland; gd = gonoducal gutter (ciliary tracts or gonoduct?); go = gonad; lo = muco-ciliary gliding organ; ma = mantle cover of cuticle and scaly bodies; mc = mantle cavity; mdv = dorsoventral musculature; mg = mid-gut; ml = longitudinal (-marginal) muscle; mo = mouth; msl = subintegumental musculature; mt = mucous tract; nce = cerebral nerves; nsb = buccal nervous system; nsl = lateral nerve cord; nsv = ventral nerve cord; pc = pericardium; pd = pericardioduct; ph = pharyngeal glands; pl = polar lobe; ra = radula; sd = dorsal blood sinus; sg = sole glands; so = terminal (osphradial) sense organ; src = supra-rectal commissure; ve = heart ventricle).

cuticularization. The simultaneous increasing need for a propulsive organ to circulate the haemolymph for distribution of oxygen and DOM as well as digested food-stuffs favoured the differentiation of a pumping motor. The result was a rudimentary heart which, due to the postero-lateral rudimentary mantle cavity and its ciliary ventilation, differentiated in the dorso-posterior body region (*cf.* STASEK, 1972: 8; SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1972: 246, 1981a: 249; WILLMER, 1990: 260). The heart initially most probably consisted of a sinus situated between the dorsal body wall and a ventrally supporting muscular concentration (eventually becoming a vesicle, the pericardium).

The advantage of or even the necessity for circulation of metabolites (be it respiratory oxygen or dissolved foodstuff) is evidenced even in certain small organisms, e.g. higher Kamptozoa (*cf.* EMSCHERMANN, 1969). This is also true for small animals partly sheltered by a limiting cover (cuticle, shell), e.g. in several veliger larvae (Fig. 10). Such veligers (RAVE, 1958: 154-155; FRETTER & GRAHAM, 1962: 453-454; FIORONI, 1966: 733-734) range from only 0.3 mm to 1.5 mm in size, yet are provided with a larval heart predominantly serving for oxygen circulation. Similar and analogous differentiation of larval hearts in pteropods and terrestrial pulmonates (*cf.* RAVEN, 1958: 154) demonstrates the functionally and morphogenetically adaptive readiness for a circulation pump.

A more substantial mantle cuticle, pierced by epidermal papillae for minimum contact with the external medium and eventually reinforced by chitin (*cf.* PETERS, 1972), would have initiated the formation of vascularized dermal protrusion within the rudimentary mantle cavity. These "single pair of complexly folded structures" (STASEK, 1972: 8; SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1972: 313, 1981a: 294, 1985: 133) became the original, alternately lamellated ctenidia. In contrast to YONGE (1947), they were free organs without membranes and skeletal rods (SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1981a: 276-279). Since neither a cuticular cover nor spicule production appear to seriously affect the respiratory capacity of the organisms as a whole (at least as long as other free epithelia are present; *cf.* RIEGER & STERRER, 1975; RUNNEGAR & POJETA, 1985: 19-21), the original ctenidia may have predominantly served for ventilation and as osmotic organs for

ionic regulation (esp. ammonotelic nitrogen metabolism). Only secondarily did they become gills through an increase of the respiratory surface related to body mass (comp. also BROWN *et al.*, 1989). Main excretion may have been realized as in Solenogastres and Caudofoveata (BABA, 1940; HOFFMAN, 1949) via the epidermal papillae and midgut (*see also p.* 17). The (simultaneously adapted?) secretion of unicellular calcareous bodies by the mantle epithelium may also reflect an excretory process (storage for excess calcium) in addition to contributing to the rigidity and protective function of the mantle cover.

Germ cells presumably were originally embedded within the mesenchyme, as in conservative Turbellaria-Acoelomorpha (*cf.* HYMAN, 1951: 111). With the fixed function of the heart within a pericardium, the gono-pericardial complex typical for molluscs became established via an association of the gametogonia with the pericardium; this was supplemented by facultative outlets (inter-cellular rupture) and later on by permanent pericardi ducts (= primary gonoducts). It thus originally represented a pericardium with a paired rostral gonocoel and paired gonoductal pericardi ducts (*cf.* HIGLEY & HEATH, 1912; SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1978: 85-95). Such a mere secondary association of the true primordial germ cells with the pericardium ('retroperitoneal' location; *cf.* HAMMARSTEN & RUNNSTRÖM, 1928: 280; RAVEN, 1958: 254) contradicts the predominantly favoured gonocoel theory for the whole complex (e.g., STASEK, 1972; *cf.* also WILLMER, 1990: 29-30 & 254).

So-called mucous tracts, composed of slender ciliated cells and hexagonal gland cells, were differentiated in the pallial groove. Their original function is not clear. At least locally correlated with the elaboration of gonopores, these tracts have also auxiliary reproductive function in Caudofoveata (regressive in males), Solenogastres, Ctenidiobranchia ("brood bag" in some female nuculid bivalves), and Siphonopoda (nidamental glands in cephalopods; *cf.* SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1972: 226-228, 1981a: 279-280). The present dominant function of the mucous tracts (= glandular tracts, hypobranchial glands; Fig. 5) appears to be the adhesive conglomeration of dispersed particles in order to cleanse the respiratory water. In Placophora, the limited extension of the tracts to the

posterior region of the mantle grooves parallels the condition in Caudofoveata as well as Solenogastres (HOFFMAN, 1949; SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1972: 250-253). In addition, there are no indications of lateral or even perioral mantle grooves in Caudofoveata (cf. Fig. 7). All these features allow us to infer a purely posterior, U-shaped pallial groove in the original molluscs.

Differentiations within the sensory system started with the concentration of longitudinal nerve fibres into paired ventral cords (see locomotion) and a pair of lateral ones (see mantle rim and postero-lateral pallial groove; internal organs); the result was medullary tetraneury = amphineury

with irregular interconnections. A separate stomogastric (buccal) system was improved with respect to the radular apparatus and the foregut glands. On the other hand, the terminal portion of the lateral cords, interconnected by a supra-rectal commissure, became involved both in the control of ionic regulation/respiration (ctenidia) and in the reception of chemical substances. Perhaps in order to synchronize the release of genital products, this (tentative) function was finally regulated by the chemoreceptive (osphradial), paired terminal sense organ associated with the ventilation at the posterior rim of the mantle groove (cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1981a; HASZPRUNAR, 1987a-b). No further

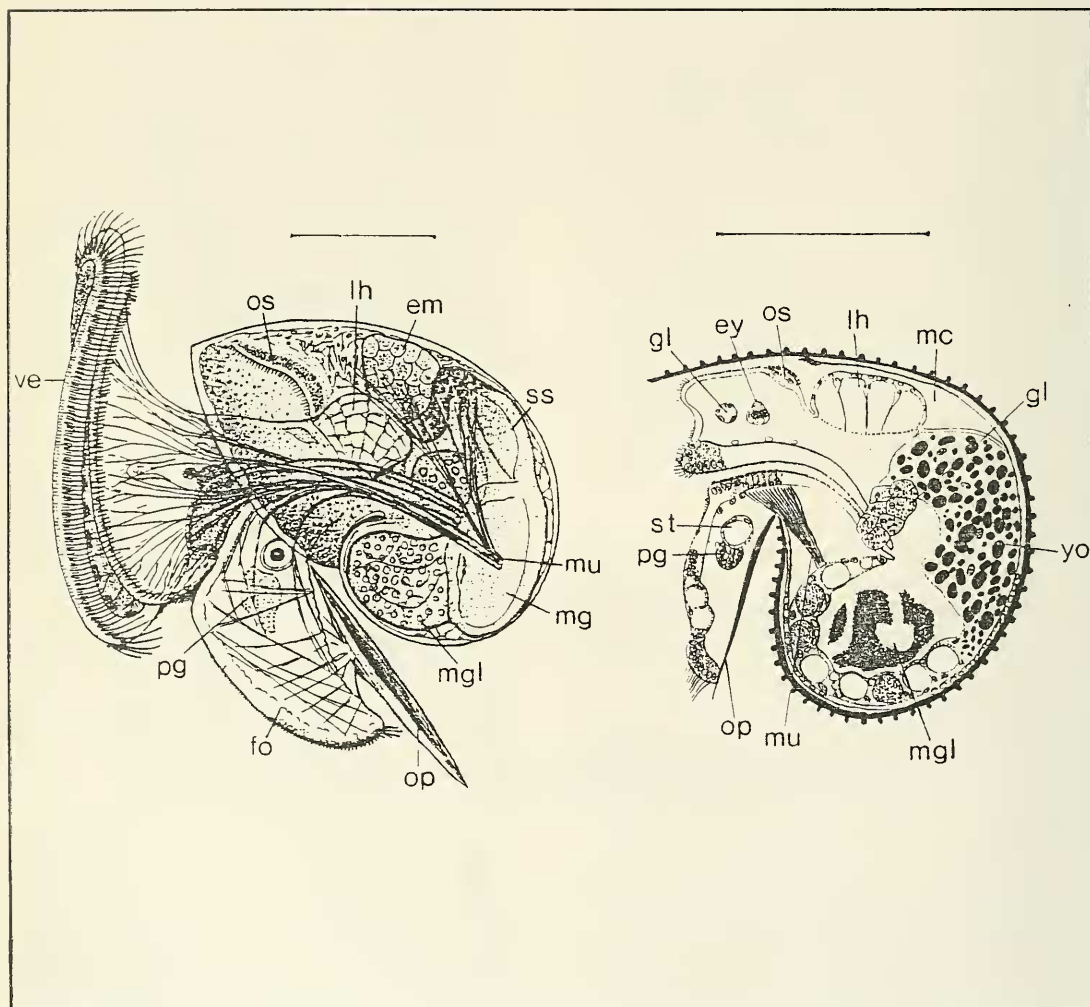


Fig. 10. Planktotrophic Veliger larvae (Caenogastropoda) with larval heart (lh); *Crepidula fornicata* (left; from WERNER, 1955) and *Philibertia purpurea* (sagittal section, right; after FIORONI, 1966). (cm = emunctory; ey = eye; fo = foot; gl = gland cells; lh = larval heart; mc = mantle cavity; mg = stomach; mgl = midgut gland; mu = dorsoventral retractor muscle; op = operculum; os = osphradium; pg = pedal ganglion; ss = style sac of stomach; st = statoecyst; ve = velum; yo = yolk; each bar = 100  $\mu$ m).



distinct sense organ is common to all molluscs.

Along with the above reorganization, the ben-  
thic, directed locomotion resulted in elongation of  
these small organisms. Ventrolateral concentra-  
tion of longitudinal muscle fibres led to a paired  
*musculus longitudinalis*; this enabled protective  
curling and even (in woodlouse fashion) rolling  
up. It also led to a more distinct seriality of the dor-  
soventral musculature. The mucociliary gliding  
was correlated with feeding which, most probably,  
was carnivorous on sessile, soft-bodied animals  
(SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1988a: 371). Such nourish-  
ment can be inferred from the conditions in the  
Solenogastres (feeding on Cnidaria). The latter  
clearly exhibit a most conservative alimentary  
tract configuration: uniform, sac-like midgut  
merely showing slight ventrolateral constrictions  
due to the dorsoventral musculature, and elabora-  
tion of a still conservative radula apparatus (*see p.*  
*11*) associated with a pair of foregut glands (*cf.*  
SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1988a).

No decisive interpretation is possible regarding  
the excretory system. In contrast to ANDREWS  
(1985: 386), the pericardioducts of neither the  
Caudofoveata nor the Solenogastres exhibit emunc-  
torial function (*cf. also* MARTIN, 1983: 361-363):  
*In vivo* experiments on Solenogastres (BABA, 1940)  
as well as ultrastructural investigations in Caudo-  
foveata (pers. comm. M. TSCHERKASSKY, Wien)  
yielded negative results with regard to a cardiac  
adjustment for ultrafiltration. However, this con-  
dition could be secondary since *Phyllomenia*  
(Solenogastres) possesses proper gonoducts (with  
retained, modified pericardial outlets) and *Drio-*  
*menia* (Solenogastres) shows relics of proper  
gonoducts (*cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1970*). In addi-  
tion, the Caudofoveata possess a pair of ectoder-  
mal, so-called glandular ducts which inter-con-  
nect the pericardioducts with the mucous tracts of  
the mantle cavity. Together with the paired gono-  
pericardial interconnection, these glandular ducts  
could well represent modified remnants of former  
gonoducts (*cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1972: 251-253,*  
1985: 73) — even if the glandular ducts (rather  
than the “coelomoducts” = pericardioducts) in  
some Caudofoveata exhibit an analogous histologi-  
cal similarity with the excretory organ of certain  
higher molluscs (*Nucula in* SCHELTEMA, 1978:  
104). The ontogenetically retarded differentiation  
of proper gonoducts in Solenogastres (*Phyllome-*

*nia*; SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1978: 88) and Placophora  
(HIGLEY & HEATH, 1912) could indeed reflect  
their convergent, phylogenetically young diffe-  
rentiation. The common ancestors (Fig. 9), then,  
may have been provided with at least functionally  
separated, gonoducal gutters or grooves to convey  
the germ cells through the pericardium into the  
pericardioducts (= primary gonoducts). True ex-  
cretory organs, i.e. pericardioducts modified to the  
Mollusca-specific emunctoria (rather than “neph-  
ridia” or “kidneys”) cannot be found below the  
level of Placophora (SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1985: 124).  
Thus, uncertainly remains as to the level of orga-  
nization at which<sup>(1)</sup> the individualization of the  
gonad from the common gonopericardium and<sup>(2)</sup>  
the (polyphyletic?) differentiation of proper gono-  
ducts separate from the pericardioducts (beco-  
ming emunctoria) took place (*cf. also* STASEK,  
1972: 10). On the other hand, the existence of true  
emunctoria in Testaria (= Placophora and Conchi-  
fera) substitutes the excretory functions of the cte-  
nidia (*see above, p. 15*) and may allow the latter’s  
eventual reduction (*cf. also* RUNNEGAR & POJETA,  
1985: 19-21).

#### 4) Anagenetic differentiation

The outlined series of partly inter-correlated  
molluscan characters define the configurations of  
basically three levels of organization, viz.<sup>(1)</sup> apla-  
cophoran,<sup>(2)</sup> polyplacophoran and<sup>(3)</sup> monoplacop-  
horan (= conchiferan); interconnecting levels can  
be defined with the Adenopoda and Testaria. Each  
gave rise to one or more extant clades and thus  
enables anagenetic differentiation to be traced  
(Fig. 11).

(1) *The aplacophoran level*: This level of orga-  
nization includes the outlined common archetype  
of molluscs as well as the conservative extant  
Caudofoveata and Solenogastres. Both the latter  
have retained the aculiferan mantle cover (cuticle,  
aragonitic bodies; *cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1990a*)  
and the straight gut. The gonads of both also shed  
their products via a pair of short ducts through the  
pericardium and pericardioducts to the exterior;  
this condition may either be plesiomorphic (?) or  
convergently secondary (*see above, p. 17*).

The evolutionary pathway towards the *Cau-*  
*dofoveata* is basically dominated by the change in life  
habit from muco-ciliary gliding to burrowing in

sediment. This development, probably coinciding with preferred nourishment on infaunal organisms, led to a new main orientation of the body along the anterior-posterior axis (in contrast to the dorso-

ventral relation). The result was a lateral rounding off and an elongate, worm-like shape. This also involved reduction of the main locomotory surfa-

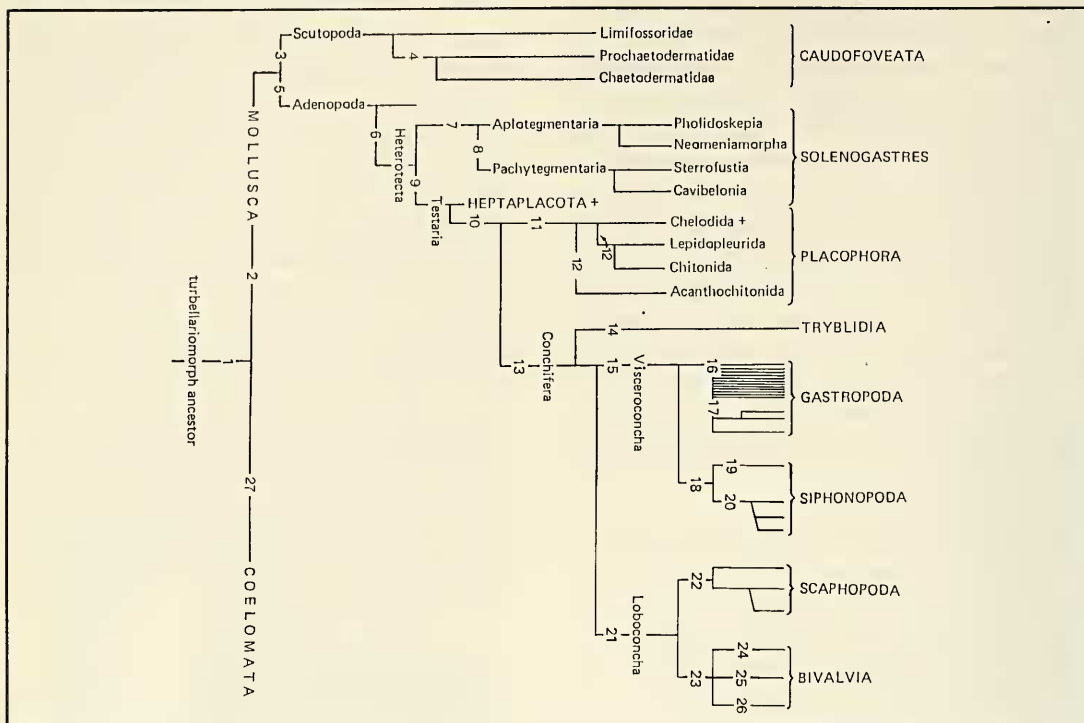


Fig. 11. Relationship and classification of Mollusca (based on SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1985 and 1990a).<sup>(1)</sup> Mesenchymate, muco-ciliary gliding Spiralia, with Pericalymma larva;<sup>(2)</sup> molluscan archetype with mantle cover, radula, etc. (see pp. 12-13 and Fig. 6);<sup>(3)</sup> infaunal burrowing habits resulting in wormshaped body and respective reorganization: Caudofoveata;<sup>(4)</sup> radular ribbon reinforced below each pair of teeth;<sup>(5)</sup> mantle cavity preorally united, locomotion restricted to ventrally-innervated section (foot) with pedo-frontal gland: Adenopoda;<sup>(6)</sup> arrangement of middorsal mantle bodies in seven transverse rows of juxtaposed elements: Heterotecta;<sup>(7)</sup> Cnidaria-vory with narrowing of body as well as foot, and with respective reorganization: Solenogastres;<sup>(8)</sup> thick cuticle with stalked mantle papillae, spicules multi-layered;<sup>(9)</sup> fusion of middorsal transverse rows of scaly bodies to form shell-plates/valves with inclusion of mantle papillae: Testaria;<sup>(10)</sup> subradular organ, reorganization of midgut, reorganization of emunctoria and aorta;<sup>(11)</sup> multiplying of ctenidia, radula with 17 teeth per row, photoreceptive aesthetes, larval ocelli: Placophora;<sup>(12)</sup> differentiation of articulamentum;<sup>(13)</sup> homogeneous shell-gland producing concha, free head with appendages, jaw formation, stomach with protostyle, statocysts: Conchifera;<sup>(14)</sup> metabolic and circulatory reorganization (repetition of ctenidia and of heart-auricles, subdivision of emunctoria): Tryblidia;<sup>(15)</sup> head with cerebral photoreceptors, restriction of mantle and shell to the visceral body and mantle cavity to the posterior, lateral nerve cords medial of dorsoventral musculature: Visceroconcha;<sup>(16)</sup> torsion of visceral complex with streptoneury, reduction of original right gonad, one pair of dorsoventral muscles, shell operculum: Gastropoda-Streptoneura with at least 12 offshoots (compare at last HASZPRUNAR, 1988);<sup>(17)</sup> parietal ganglia, subcerebral commissure, plicatidium, repugnatorial glands, hermaphroditism: Pentaganglionata = Euthyneura (see Fig. 14);<sup>(18)</sup> septate concha transversed by mantle siphon (siphuncle), head appendages becoming grasping arms, foot altered to funnel/siphon; Siphonopoda ("cefalopods");<sup>(19)</sup> multiplying of ctenidia, repetition of ctenidia, subdivision of emunctoria: Nautiloidea;<sup>(20)</sup> restriction of radula (9-5 teeth per row) and differentiation if ink sac, both which also refer to Ammonoidea; mantle covers shell with successive regression of shell, differentiation of branchial hearts: recent Coleoidea with radiation into Decabranchia, Vampyromorpha, and Octobranchia;<sup>(21)</sup> lateral enlargement of mantle and concha, anterior elongation of foot: Loboconcha;<sup>(22)</sup> ventral fusion of mantle lobes, reduction of ctenidia, head appendages becoming captacula: Scaphopoda (cf. Fig. 13);<sup>(23)</sup> suppression of calcification along middorsal longitudinal line of shell, suspension-feeding with reduction of buccal region: Bivalvia with three recent clades;<sup>(24)</sup> deposit-feeding, head appendages (labial flaps) with tentaculated palp: Ctenidiobranchia/Nuculida;<sup>(25)</sup> filter-feeding by means of the foliated (= plain-faced) ctenidia: Palaeobranchia/Solemyida;<sup>(26)</sup> filter-feeding by means of the axially elongated ctenidia with multiplied elongated lamellae, paedomorph of byssus gland, differentiation of protonephridia: Autobranchia (with filibranch, lamellibranch and septibranch subgroups);<sup>(27)</sup> infaunal-burrowing locomotion with microvory inducing vermiform body and ventral ciliation, differentiation of secondary body cavity with coelomate organization: Coelomata.

ce, midventral fusion of the lateral mantle rims, shift of the pallial groove to the terminal end of the body with inversion of its organs (ctenidia, mucous tracts; see Fig. 5), and reinforcement of the longitudinal layer of the subintegumental musculature at the expense of the dorsoventral system. A postoral area of structurally particular body epithelium functioned as a digging locomotory organ facilitating burrowing (hence: pedal shield, oral shield; see p. 9). The microvorous nourishment also influenced the alimentary canal and favoured the specialization of the posterior midgut to be splitted into intestine and large midgut sac (see above p. 11, and SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1981b, 1988a).

In contrast, the forerunners of the hermaproditic *Solenogastres* retained their epibenthic habits. The result was an anterior elongation and preoral merger of the mantle groove. In addition, a distinct pedal gland at the anterior border of the ventrally-innervated portion of the gliding sole was formed. The presence of this pedal gland defines the recent *Solenogastres* and *Placophora* as well as *Conchifera* within a common level of ADENOPODA, in contrast to *Caudofoveata* = SCUTOPODA (see p. 10 and SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1972: 294-309, 1981a, 1985). Moreover, developmental particularities (cf. PRUVOT, 1890) suggest common precursors of *Solenogastres* and *Placophora* whose mid-dorsal mantle spicules were arranged into seven successive rows of adjacent scaly bodies; these were set off from the disordered scales of the flanks (Fig. 5 br). This elaboration was later lost in the *Solenogastres* proper, which fed on *Cnidaria* and successively adapted a winding-wriggling locomotion (secondary hard bottoms with hydroids, coral colonies; cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1981b). The result was a simple narrowing of the body and the foot, as well as regression of the antero-lateral pallial cavity and an internalization of the latero-posterior portions of the mantle groove. They became the actual mucous spawning ducts (Figs. 5 & 7) into which the pericardioducts open; the ctenidia were reduced, although ventilation is maintained by other ciliated epithelial surfaces in mantle cavity.

(2) *The polyplacophoran level:* The trend to reinforce the mantle cover, probably associated with the advancement into tidal zones of hard bottoms, led to the polyplacophoran level and to the origin of the clade *Testaria* (= *Placophora* plus *Conchifera*). The consolidation of the juxta-

sedly secreted scales into seven rows (above) to form seven imbricating plates (SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1985: 113-114) is supported by developmental patterns (KOWALEVSKY, 1883a; MINICHEV & SIREKO, 1984; cf. Fig. 5). This initial configuration as well as the frequent abnormality of predominantly seven valves only in recent forms (TAKI, 1932; LANGER, 1978; DELL'ANGELO, 1982) suggest seven-plated forms or *Heptaplacota* as immediate forerunners of the extant representatives, regardless of whether the known records of fossil *Septemchiton*-species are valid (cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1981a: 258-259; ROLFE, 1981). Later on an eighth valve or plate was added, leading to the loricate *Placophora*; the serial pairs of dorsoventral muscle bundles became arranged accordingly (two pairs per plate). Mantle papillae enclosed within the plates became elaborated for negative phototaxis (aesthetes; cf. FISCHER, 1978). The more complex digestive conditions (feeding by scraping algae) favoured the elaboration of the gut: operation of the radular apparatus (stereoglossate condition; cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1985: 359-360), well-defined foregut glands and subdivision of the midgut into a distinct oesophagus with lateral pouches, stomach with laterally differentiated digestive glandular organs and somewhat looped intestine (cf. Fig. 8). In addition, a chemoreceptive sense organ within the eversible subradular pouch enabled examination of food before uptake. This differentiation and the adhesion to hard substrates in the upper sublittoral zone led to the adaptation or more specialized elaboration of the excretory functions of the heart (ultrafiltration) and pericardioducts (emunctoria); it also initiated the compensatory multiplication of the ctenidia for respiration.

(3) *The monoplacophoran level:* The emergence of the monoplacophoran level was most probably realized by the fusion of the eight formative areas of placophoran plates to a concha-producing shell-gland (cf. HAAS, 1981). This is supported (1) by the fossil *Merisconchia* (Fig. 12) which show the first and the second valves (with a pair of muscle scars) still separated from the remaining shell (with six pairs of muscle scars) by distinct furrows (cf. YU, 1984, 1987); (2) by the arrangement of the dorsoventral musculature in recent *Tryblidia* (cf. HAAS, 1981; SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1981a: 242-244; also WINGSTRAND, 1985); (3) by the existence of

shell-perforating mantle-papillae in various Conchifera (similar to the enclosed aesthetes; cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1985: 115-116). A prerequisite for such a fusion process would have been the loss of the necessity for the animals to roll up (the *musculus longitudinalis* shifting to a pedal position, cf. Fig. 5), possibly due to a fairly adhesive existence. Correlatedly, perioral/labial (head) appendages were differentiated for microvorous feeding; this was supplemented by cuticularization in the pharynx (jaw formation; cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1985, 1988a). The digestion of such food implied the subsequent elaboration of the specialized prostyle-sac type of stomach (cf. Fig. 8 and SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1988a: 366-370).

Such a monoplacophoran organization, complemented by statocysts and a sub-rectal commissure, is basic to all (at least extant) Conchifera. Recent *Tryblidia* have largely retained this configuration, but have adapted certain additional characters

geared to metabolic requirements: the more efficient and interdependent elaboration (and subdivision) of the emunctoria, the ctenidia, and branchio-auricular connections (cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1988b). Other, fossil conchiferan lines probably also diverged from such primitive level, especially those subsumed under the paraphyletic "Galerconcha" or "Monoplacophora" (cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1980, 1981a; POJETA & RUNNEGAR, 1976; RUNNEGAR & POJETA 1985: 25-32; YU, 1987).

Extant representatives subsequently diverged into two clades: (a) Organisms penetrating soft bottoms adapted an anterior elongated foot and a laterally enlarged mantle with shell to envelop the entire body. Such *Loboconcha* (= *Diasoma*, Ancyropoda) include the fossil *Rostroconchia* and the *Bivalvia* as well as *Scaphopoda*, which are obviously derived from the former. Deposited and/or

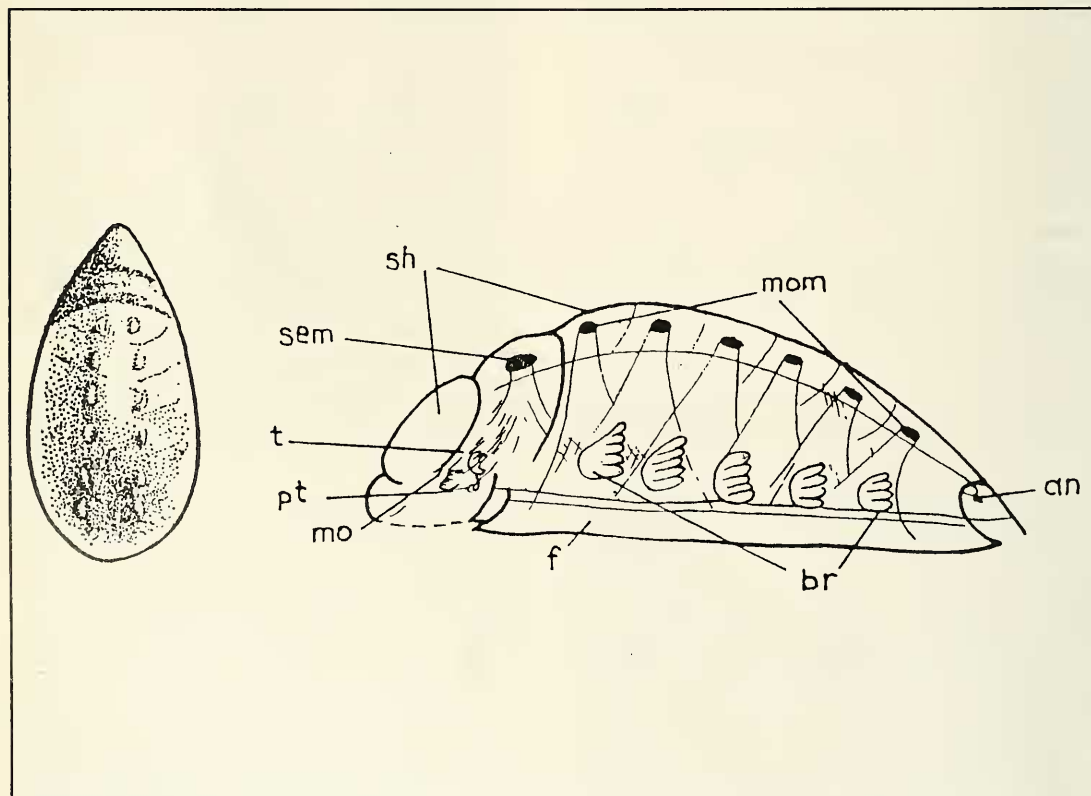


Fig. 12. MERISMOCONCHIA, dorsal view with muscle scars (left) and reconstructed organization (after YU, 1984). (an = anus; br = ctenidia; f = foot; mo = mouth; mom = dorsoventral muscle bundles III-VIII; pt = postoral tentacle; sem = muscle bundle II; sh = shell; t = preoral tentacle).

suspended food led to the adaptation of the perioral/labial appendages or to mucociliar palp-feeding. This paralleled the regression of the buccal apparatus (but not the “head” with cerebral ganglia). The thus emerged *Bivalvia* (cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1980a: 262-263; 1981a: 268-270) radiated according to different feeding strategies along three adaptive lines (Ctenidiobranchia, Palaeobranchia, Autobranchia). Only one, the lamelli-branch Autobranchia, were quantitatively successful. Other Loboconcha became true infaunal species which searched for small prey (micro-carnivory) by means of specialised head appendages (captacula); this infaunal habit favoured the mid-ventral fusion of the mantle and shell as it is in *Scaphopoda* (cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1981a: 271-272, 1988a: 343-344).

b) The second clade improved the plantigrade locomotion and differentiated a free head with cerebral photoreceptors. This restricted the mantle and shell to the increasingly conical visceral body and limited the mantle groove to a mere posterior cavity. These *Visceroconcha* (= Rhacopoda; not identical, however, with the “Cyrtosoma” of RUNNEGAR & POJETA, 1985: 25, which include the “Monoplacophora”) also share the lateral/pleural nerve cords medial to the dorso-ventral musculature; moreover, they are provided with an antagonistic, three-dimensional muscle-on-muscle system (see above, p. 12). Within that frame, the *Gastropoda* are characterized by the particular event involving two-phased torsion: the first phase was probably advantageous for equilibrium problems of early lecithotroph larva, the second one merely represents regulative differential growth (cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1981a: 261-263; HASZPRUNAR, 1988: 405-407). As a probable consequence of torsion, the pretorsional right reproductive system became reduced and an operculum was adapted. On the other hand, hypertrophy of orthoconic or slightly cyrtconic shells might well have led to a septate condition — as in certain gastropods and extinct groups. The apical mantle area in one such groups, however, retained permanent connection with the concha and thus formed a mantletube or siphuncle. This mantle/shell configuration appears to have been the prerequisite for the differentiation of *Siphonopoda* = cephalopods (SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1981a: 265-267). The permeable siphuncle enabled the extraction of chamber-

liquid and partial replacement with gas for buoyancy (cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1981a: 265-266; TEICHERT, 1988: 67-69). The differentiation of parapodia-like enlargements of the foot allowed a floating-fluttering mobility (later rolled and meeting or merging ventrally to form the funnel for jet propulsion). The perioral/head tentacles grasped small organisms (omnivory to necrophagy); later, these cerebrally-innervated (!) tentacles (YOUNG, 1977, 1988; SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1980a, 1981a) became elaborated into several (already ten?) modified organs (again multiplied in the nautiloid line). The foot with pedal gland is merely represented by the funnel or siphon with funnel gland (hence: ‘siphono’-pods, rather than “cephalo”-pods).

## CLASSIFICATION

Classification should represent the natural system and evolutionary pathways. The anagenetic differentiation of the Mollusca outlined above must be incorporated into modern classification schemes. The following critical appraisal should be helpful in such a compiled systematic survey.

### 1) General remarks

(a) The long-standing classification of Caudofoveata (= animals with terminal (pallial-)cavity) and Solenogastres (= animals with a mid-ventral channel or (pedal) groove) within one class “Aplacophora” is untenable. As outlined above (p. 18, 19), the configuration of the mantle cavity in each group (Fig. 5) demonstrates that two different processes are responsible for the vermiform or slender shape of the Caudofoveata and the Solenogastres. This clearly contradicts a derivation of one from the other (SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1985, 1990b). Both the lateroventral inversion in Caudofoveata (p. 18) and the simple lateral narrowing in Solenogastres (p. 19) represent para-phyletic conditions. They can be interrelated only if traced back to and originating from broad, ciliarily-gliding organisms (Fig. 5 A). In addition, neither group possesses a single commonly-derived (synapomorphic) character which would demonstrate a closer relationship other than in a common archimolluscan ancestry (plesiomorphies). This also refers to the gonopericardial complex (p. 13/15); it supports the argument that the lack of true gonoducts is analogous (due to narrowing of the bodies). Thus, at least the conditions of the mantle cavities (rather

than because of the pedal condition, *see p. 10* and the mis-interpretation by SCHELTEMA, 1978 and 1988: 61), Caudofoveata (Chaetodermomorpha) and Solenogastres (Neomeniomorpha) represent two separate, paraphyletic clades. These qualitative differences, irrespective of the diverging numbers of species, requires classification as separate classes.

(b) A similar condition involves the two paraphyletic bivalve subclasses Ctenidiobranchia (Nuculida, Ctenodonta) and Paleobranchia (Solemyida, Cryptodonta), generally united under a single taxon "Protobranchia" (*cf.* SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1980: 262-263, 1981a: 269-270; ALLEN, 1985: 349).

(c) The term "Amphineura", formerly used to include Polyplacophora and Aplacophora (above) within one subphylum (alongside the subphylum Conchifera), is misleading and out-of-date: amphineury is retained in Placophora and Tryblidia only. Aculifera is the more appropriate term for the lower Mollusca to contrast them to Conchifera.

(d) Among Scaphopoda (Fig. 13), the order Gadilida (= Siphonodentaliida) embraces two distinct levels (suborders), the Entalimorpha and Gadilimorpha (STEINER, 1990).

(e) The large number of fossil Siphonopoda generally subsumed under Nautiloidea is more appropriately subdivided into the basic stock of Orthoceratoida (= Palcephalopoda when including the Actinocerida and Endocerida) and Nautiloidea s.str. (*cf.* SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1980a: 265-266, 1981a: 267-268; TEICHERT, 1985: 19-21).

(f) The familiar three divisions of the Gastropoda into "Prosobranchia", Opisthobranchia and Pulmonata is no longer satisfactory. More recent investigations demonstrate that the nervous system is more reliable with respect to high level organisation. The subclades should therefore preferably be termed 'Streptoneura' and 'Euthyneura'. Herein, the Streptoneura are thoroughly reclassified according to synapomorphic characters as discussed in SALVINI-PLAWEN & HASZPRUNAR (1987) and summarised in HASZPRUNAR (1988).

— The Euthyneura (Fig. 15) basically share the pentaganglionate visceral system (i.e. with parie-

tal ganglia), a second (= delicate sub-) cerebral commissure, as well as repugnatorial glands (tectibranch *Acteon*, *Hydatina*, *Ringicula*, and some Bullomorpha; gymnomorph *Onchidella* and *Veronicella*; lower pulmonate *Siphonaria* and Ellobiidae). In addition, they have a plicatid gill in common, newly established at the site of the former left ctenidium. This plicatidium is therefore not homologous to the prosobranch gill (*cf.* HASZPRUNAR, 1985, *versus* SCHEMKEKEL, 1985); the terms "Eucteniidae/Ctenidiidae", "Acteniidae" and "Pseudoeucteniidae" (TARDY, 1970; SCHEMKEKEL & PORTMANN, 1982; SCHEMKEKEL, 1985; WÄGELE, 1989) used to classify anthobranch and nudibranch gastropods are thus at least ambiguous or even clear misnomers. The Euthyneura include the Opisthobranchia, the Gymnomorpha and the Pulmonata (see below).

— The Opisthobranchia differentiated the head-shield and the paired, so-called Organ of Hancock between head-shield and foot. The monophyly of all opisthobranch groups is evidenced by the common outer branch of the labio-tentacularis nerves (not existent in Gymnomorpha and Pulmonata); this paired nerve is a true synapomorphic character (see HASZPRUNAR, 1988: 422-426, for our need for clear synapomorphies) and provides either the anterior portion on Hancock's organ or the anterior/frontal/oral tentacles (or the rudiments thereof; *cf.* HUBER, 1987). The other portion of Hancock's organ is innervated by the paired rhinophoral nerves, already differentiated in Pyramidellidae. In Anaspidia, Acochlidiomorpha, Gymnosomata and Eleutherobranchia the rhinophoral nerves supply the (true) rhinophores. In the Saccoglossa\* without head-shield, however, they innervate together with the head-shield nerves (nn. clypeo-capitis = nn. tentacularis of Streptoneura and neotene Thecosomata), the single or bifid/bifurcate (posterior) head appendages; these latter are consequently not homologous with the rhinophores but with the posterior head-shield areas *plus* Hancock's organ, and should thus be termed 'rhinotentacles'. On the other hand, Eleutherobranchia as well as the small-sized Acochlidiomorpha, Rhodopemorpha and *Philinoglossa* have regres-

\* <sup>1</sup> from Greek *sakkos* = sac or sack (Greek *sakos* is inaccurate, since this refers to a "large shield") and latinized to *saccus* (not *sacus*); Greek *glossus* (ex *glota*) = tongue. Consequently, the argumentation by Marcus (1982: 10) in favour for Ascoglossa fails, since Saccoglossa is not a compound (Latin and Greek) name.

sed both the head-shield and its clypeo-capitis (= tentacle) nerves.

—The relationships among Tectibranchia remain ambiguous due to the lack of known synapomorphies. Whereas the Ringiculoidea and Acteonoidea undoubtedly represent the most conservative stock (Architectibranchia), only the (anterior) gizzard appears to mark a true synapomorphy at least for Bullomorpha, Anaspidea and Thecosomata (Paratectibranchia, SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1988a:

326, emend.). This anterior gizzard is also present in Umbraculomorpha. In Thecosomata, most probably paedomorphy/neoteny occurred at the second larval stage after BROWN (1934) which implied the loss of the head-shield and Hancock's organs (as well as the respective innervation) and the retention of heterostrophic shell as well as of the gizzard. The lack of gizzard in Saccoglossa and Acochlidiomorpha may be primary, as is the case

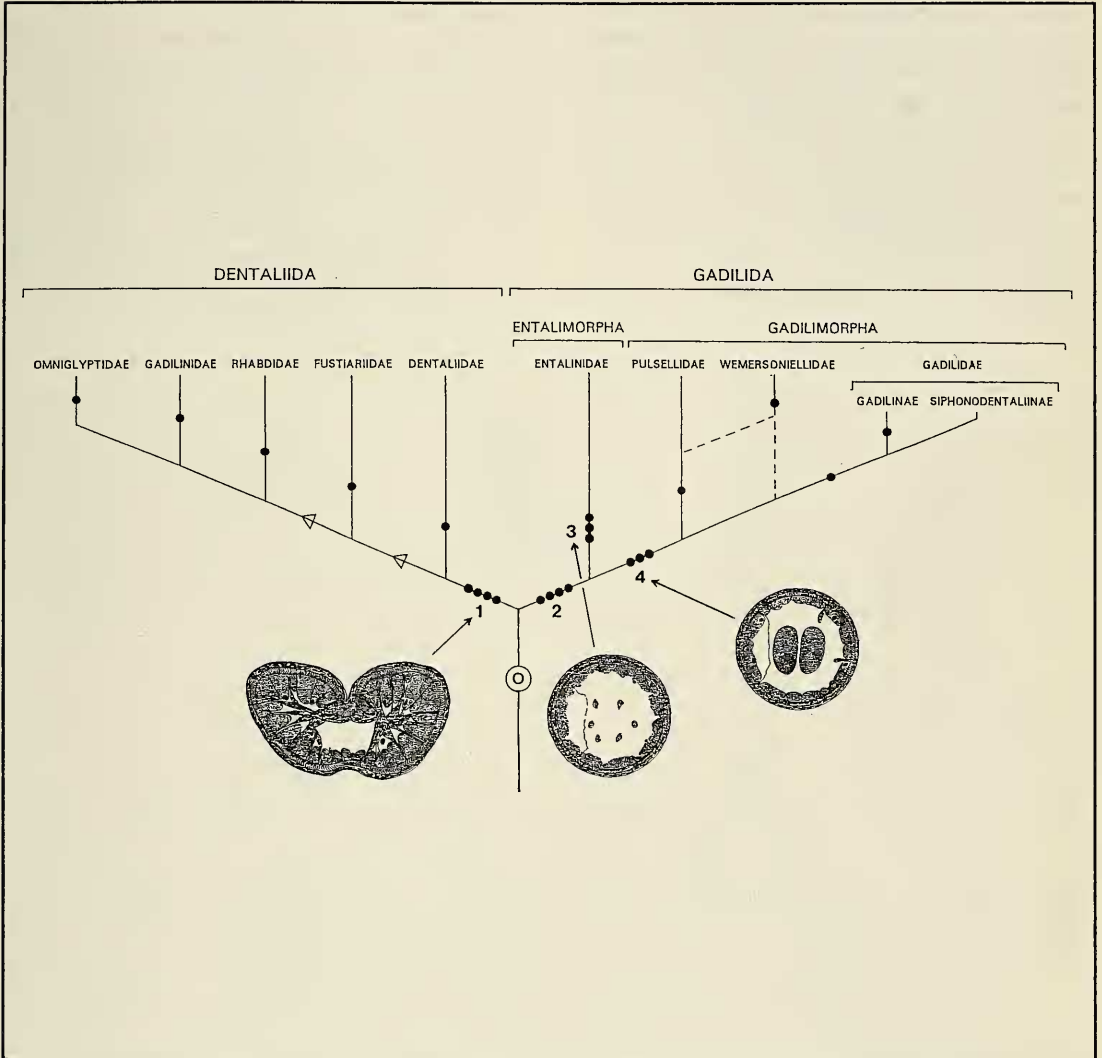


Fig. 13. Phylogenetic reconstruction of pathways in Scaphopoda (combined after STEINER, 1990).<sup>0)</sup> = Common scaphopod ancestor; <sup>1)</sup> = Dentaliida: foot with distal epipodial-lobes for anchorage and strong peripheral muscle bundles only (inset), two pairs of dorsoventral body retractors, captacula with 10 retractors, central radula teeth wider than tall; <sup>2)</sup> = Gadilida: foot with distal pedal disk and separated central retractors, one pair of dorsoventral body retractors, captacula with 7-5 retractors, central radula teeth taller than wide; <sup>3)</sup> = Entalimorpha: foot with 4-6 central retractors (inset), lateral teeth of radula with 5-9 denticles; <sup>4)</sup> = Gadilimorpha: foot with two central retractors (inset), lateral teeth of radula with three prominent denticles, marginal teeth with keel.

in the cephalaspidean Architectibranchia and Diaphanoidea: On one hand, the genus *Cylindrobulla* is intermediated between Diaphanidae and Saccoglossa based on its radula (cf. GASCOIGNE & SARTORY, 1974: 122; THOMPSON, 1979: 340; MARCUS, 1982: 10-12). On the other hand, the radulae of Acochlidioromorpha parallel certain Diaphanidae as well as Saccoglossa (Fig. 14; cf. also ODHNER, 1937). As far as known, members of both Diaphanidae (*Diaphana minuta*) and Acochlidioromorpha (*Hedylopsis suecica*, *Pontohedyle milaschewitchii*) are micro-omnivorous to micro-herbivorous (JAECKEL 1952, Hadl et al. 1970). Diaphanoidea, Saccoglossa, and Acochlidioromorpha may thus be suggested to represent an interrelated stock with mosaic evolution: Dystectibranchia nov. The aberrant, a-TECTIBRANCH Rhodopemorpha including *Helminthope psammobionta* and five presumed species of *Rhodope* likewise belong to the Tectibranchia (cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1987, 1990c; also

HUBER, 1987; HASZPRUNAR & HUBER, 1990). They share with Acochlidioromorpha calcareous, subepidermal spicule formations (cf. RIEGER & STERRER, 1975), which could indicate closer affinities (both Rhodopidae and Hedylopsidae also show monaulic genital system; cf. ODHNER, 1937); however, this character could also be due to the predominantly interstitial habitat.

— Relationships among Eleutherobranchia appear to be indicated by several synapomorphies in anagenetic arrangement (Fig. 15). The restriction of the right digestive gland into a caecum or its loss altogether was used by WÄGELE (1989) as a synapomorphy for Anthobranchia and *Doridoxa*. This loses that particular phylogenetic weight due to similar conditions in Bullomorpha (*Philinoglossa*), Rhodopemorpha (*Rhodope*), or Nudibranchia-Arminiacca (*Marionia*). The independent lines of Umbraculomorpha (SCHMEKEL, 1985) and Pleurobranchia (IHERING, 1922) are confir-

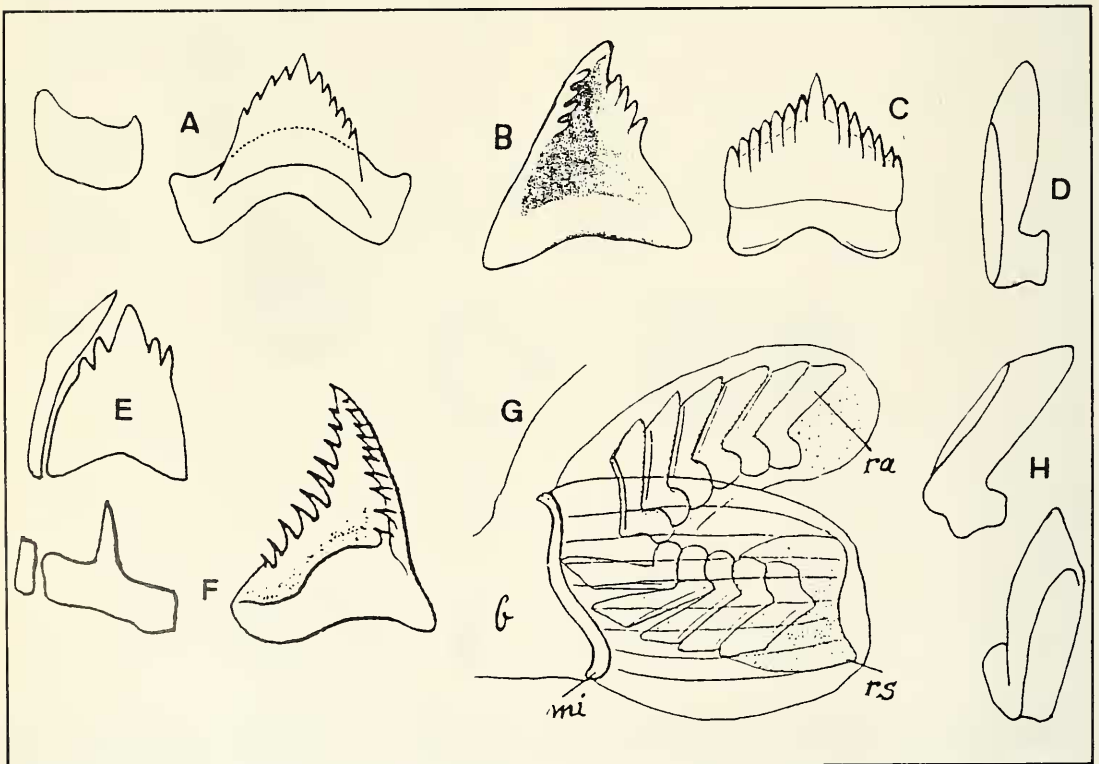


Fig. 14. Radula teeth of Dystectibranchia: A-B = Diaphanidae; C-D = Saccoglossa; E-H = Acochlidioromorpha. A *Toledonia major* (Hedley), B *Newnesia antarctica* Smith, C *Cylindrobulla beaufi* Fischer, D *Placida dendritica* (Alder & Hancock), E *Unela remanei* Marcus, F *Acochlidium weberi* (Bergh), G & H *Ganitus evelinae* Marcus (G whole radula from lateral, H two teeth). (b = buccal cavity; mi = mandible; ra = radula teeth; rs = radula support). (after HOFFMANN, 1938; MARCUS, 1953, 1982; GASCOIGNE & SARTORY, 1974).



med, and the Nudibranchia (s.str. = Cladohepatica) are well-separated from Anthobranchia (= Holohepatica) and Doridoxamorpha (nov., pro "Pseudoeucteniidae" TARDY).

— The Gymnomorpha (Onchidiida and Solcolifera) are characterized by the restriction of the mantle cavity to a mere cloaca (cf. SARASIN & SARASIN, 1899; FRETTER, 1943) and by the differen-

tiation of non-homologous, secondary respiratory organs. These are the so-called ureter gland in Solcolifera and a pulmonary space in Onchidiida (incorrectly cited by HASZPRUNAR & HUBER, 1990: 186; pers. comm. B. RUTHENSTEINER). In addition, the retained prosobranch tentacles are supplemented by the eyes, and the genital system is diallic (in some onchidiids the closed vas deferens

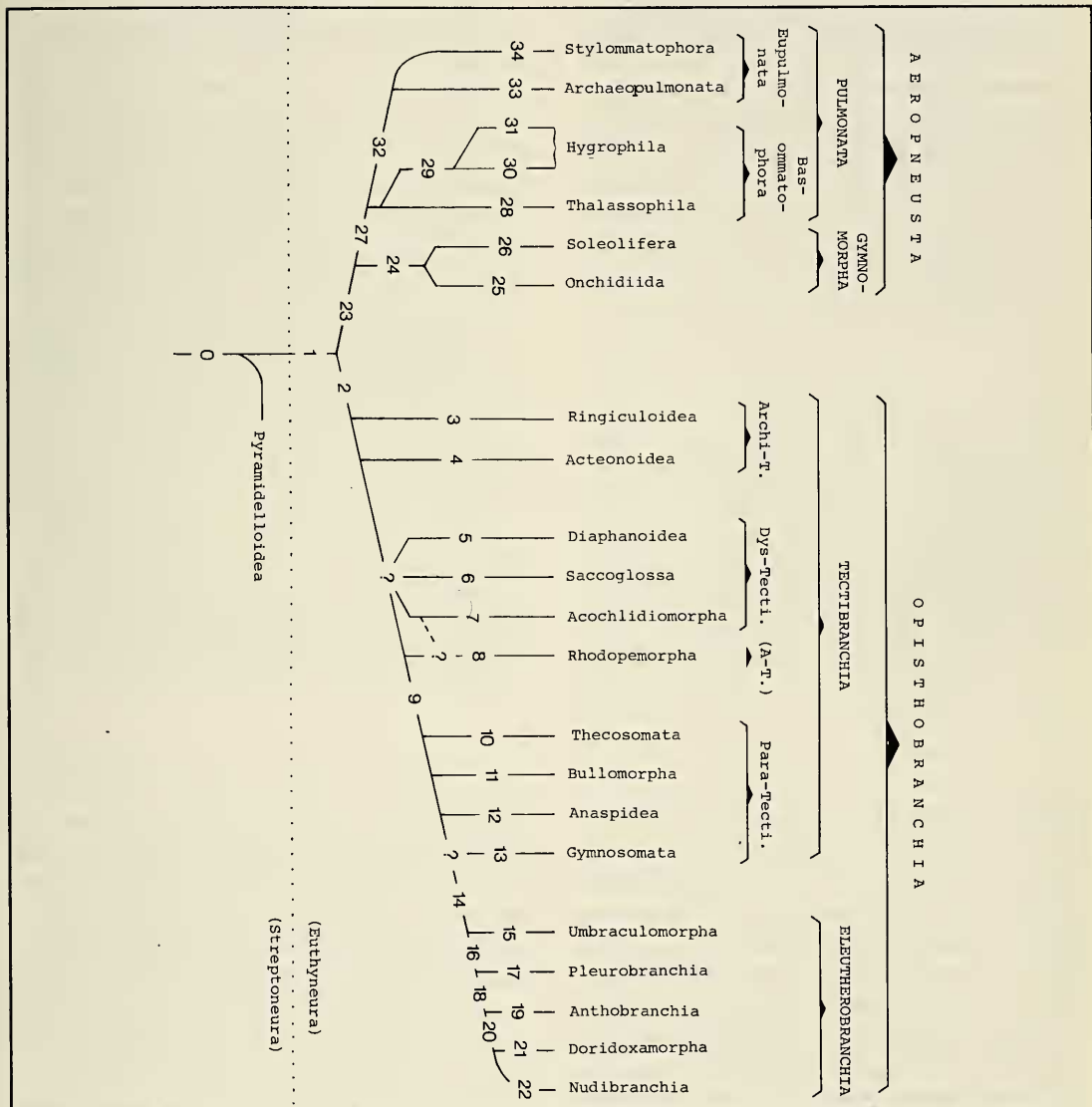


Fig. 15. Phylogenetic reconstruction of pathways in recent Gastropoda-Euthyneura (compare also pp. 22).<sup>(0)</sup> = Streptoneura with (Apogastropoda) epiathroid nervous system, bifurcated tentacle nerves and parapetal commissure; with (Allogastropoda) heterostrophy, two opposed ciliated tracts in the mantle cavity devoid of ctenidia; eggs united by chalazae, sperm of spiral type with glycogen helices within

midpiece. Newly differentiated (cerebral-)rhizophoral and (pedal-)lateral nerves.<sup>(1)</sup> = EUTHYNEURA: Elongation of head-pedal complex with parietal ganglia, with subcerebral commissure, pallial caecum, plicatid gill (= plicatidium), and repugnatorial glands; hermaphroditic and monaulic genital system with pallial gonoduct, open seminal groove, bursa copulatrix (distal) and receptaculum seminis (proxi-

mal); chromosomes:  $n = 16$ .<sup>(2)</sup> = OPISTHOBRANCHIA: Burrowing habits with head-shield with incorporation of bifurcated tentacle = clypeo-capitis nerves; rhiophoral nerves provide new Hancock's sense organs with newly differentiated external branch of labiotentacularis nerves for their anterior area; with giant nerve cells; chromosomes:  $n = 17$ .<sup>(3)</sup> = Head-shield and parapodia form median siphon; protrusible cephalic penis.<sup>(4)</sup> = Fusion of pleural with cerebral ganglia; androdialic genital system with closed vas deferens.<sup>(5)</sup> = Anterior portion of both head-shield and foot with tentaculiform enlargements, radula with prominent (Diaphanidae) or without central tooth (Notodiaphanidae).<sup>(6)</sup> = Monostichogloss radula with saccus; fusion of cerebral and pleural ganglia; sub-pallial andro-dialic or trialetic gonoduct system.<sup>(7)</sup> = Reduction of shell and mantle cavity, disintegration of head-shield with reduction of clypeo-capitis nerves; with subdermal spicule formations; reduction of right midgut gland; subpallial gonoduct; interstitial or/and limnic.<sup>(8)</sup> = Reduction of shell, mantle cavity, head-shield and nerves, jaws, radula, stomach, pericardium as well as heart; and pleural ganglia; with protonephridial system.<sup>(9)</sup> = Anterior gizzard with plates or teeth; sub-pallial gonoduct.<sup>(10)</sup> = Pedomorphy/neoteny (see p. 26) with heterostrophy of adult shell; pelagic life.<sup>(11)</sup> = Conservative group of Paratectibranchia with many retained plesiomorphic, but without (?) synapomorphic characters.<sup>(12)</sup> = Hypoarthroid nervous system, oodialic genital system, disintegration of head-shield.<sup>(13)</sup> = Hypoarthroid nervous system, reduction of shell and mantle cavity (with plicatidium retained?); pelagic carnivory with buccal arms.<sup>(14)</sup> = Reduction of head-shield and clypeo-capitis nerves, reduction of mantle cavity but plicatidium retained.<sup>(15)</sup> = Shell flattened and circular in shape, or lost; jaws ring-shaped.<sup>(16)</sup> = Reduction of gizzard, osphradium, and albumen gland; blood gland close to the heart, cerebral nerves with accessory ganglia; chromosomes:  $n = 12$ .<sup>(17)</sup> = Larval shell dextrally coiled, adult shell orthostrophic; with bucco-pharyngeal acid gland.<sup>(18)</sup> = Reduction of shell, doridid shape; epidermis with so-called vacuole cells; right midgut gland small and on the right-anterior side; rhinophores retractile within sheaths; chromo-

somes:  $n = 13$ .<sup>(19)</sup> = Total detorsion (posteriomedian position of anus and excretory porus), gills in symmetric arrangement.<sup>(20)</sup> = Loss of plicatidium; fusion of cerebral and pleural ganglia.<sup>(21)</sup> = Characters of genus *Doridoxa*.<sup>(22)</sup> = No blood gland and bursa copulatrix; left midgut gland subdivided ('Cladohepatica').<sup>(23)</sup> = AEROPNEUSTA: Small animals without oralis nerves, with supplementary air-breathing; differentiation of procerebrum and cerebral glands; with pair of new peritentacular nerves but without rhinophoral nerves. Chromosomes:  $n = 16$ .<sup>(24)</sup> = *Gymnomorpha*: Reduction of shell, air-breathing with epidermis, mantle cavity restricted to a cloaca; retained (prosobranch) tentacles with eyes; procerebrum with globineurons only; genital system androdialic.<sup>(25)</sup> = Onchidiida: with secondary pulmonary space.<sup>(26)</sup> = Solcolifera: with soleolae, ureter gland for respiration, Semper's organ.<sup>(27)</sup> = *Pulmonata*: Air-breathing within mantle cavity (elaboration of a "lung") with pneumostome; head tentacles rudimentary, with eyes near base; procerebrum with both large cells and globineurons; single albumen gland.<sup>(28)</sup> = Siphonariidae, Amphibolidae, Trimusculidae (Gadiniidae): independent offshoots of primitive pulmonate level, each sharing only certain symplesiomorphic characters (mantle cavity including osphradium, monaulic, lack of tentacles (?), Veliger larva, or operculum).<sup>(29)</sup> = Hygrophila: with posttentacular sense organ, dialic genital system; chromosomes:  $n = 18$ .<sup>(30)</sup> = Chilinoidea = Chiliniidae and Latiidae: loss of anterior lobe of midgut gland; characters of each family.<sup>(31)</sup> = Branchiopulmonata: median eyes, osphradium outside of pneumostome, with ureter, loss of both vaginal vesicula and pulmonary caecum.<sup>(32)</sup> = Eupulmonata: Contractile pneumostome, distinct free tentacles, procerebrum with globineurons only, hypoarthroid nerve ring; chromosomes:  $n = 18$ .<sup>(33)</sup> = Ellobiidae and Otinidae: foot divided by transverse furrow; characters of each family (e.g. partial resorption of shell-lamella in Ellobiidae, or limpet shape with respiratory pedal lobes and alterations in the nervous system in Otinidae).<sup>(34)</sup> = Head with retractile tentacles bearing the eyes, peritentacular nerves with outer branch, with ureter and podocyst.

is still accompanied by an external ciliated furrow, such as in *Chilina*; cf. HUBENDICK, 1978: 23/25). In contrast, the Pulmonata are characterized by the elaboration of the mantle cavity into a pulmonary organ with lung and pneumostome; basically no free tentacles appear to be present, and the genital system is monaulic. Gymnomorpha and Pulmonata, however, share the differentiation of a neurosecretory cerebral complex (procerebrum, cerebral gland, dorsal bodies), which demonstrates their monophyletic origin as Acropneusta (SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1990a).

Basommatophora possess a procerebrum with large nuclei in the cells, whereas Gymnomorpha and Stylommatophora with Ellobiidae show a procerebrum with small cells (globineurons).

HASZPRUNAR and HUBER (1990) interpret the latter condition (as well as the cloacal opening in Gymnomorpha and the contractile pneumostome in Stylommatophora) as synapomorphic; this is contradicted by VAN MOL (1967: 127-132, 1974) who cites convergency due to exclusive air-breathing. The primitive condition assumed by VAN MOL in Ellobiidae, however, is not in concordance with chromosome number (BURCH, 1960, 1967): Accordingly, the Siphonariidae ( $n = 16$ ) exhibit the most primitive condition retained (see PATTERSON, 1967 for "mesogastropod" conditions). This is equally true of the extensive vascular plexus within the roof of the siphonariid mantle cavity, which simultaneously serves as a lung (YONGE, 1952; BRACE, 1983: 487). The chromosome

numbers contrast with those of other Basommatophora (n = almost exclusively 18) not to mention Stylommatophora (n = 20-34, except for Succineidae with n = 5-22); the Gymnomorpha (n = 16-18) are closest to Siphonariidae. This latter point is supported by sperm structure (HEALY, 1986). An evaluation of all these characters suggests the deviation of the Gymnomorpha already at the very root of the basommatophoran Pulmonata. This view was similarly expressed by HOFFMANN (1925: Fig. 40) and is accepted here. The relationships among Pulmonata (cf. HUBENDICK, 1947, 1978; MORTON, 1955; HARRY, 1964; VAN MOL, 1967, 1974; HASZPRUNAR & HUBER 1990) allow the Archaeopulmonata (Ellobiidae and Otinidae) to be aligned with the Stylommatophora: Eupulmonata (MORTON, 1955; emend. HASZPRUNAR & HUBER). In contrast, the Chilinoidea (Chilinidae and Latiidae) are close to the Branchiopulmonata (higher limnic Basommatophora): Hygrophila. Siphonariidae, Trimusculidae (Gadiniidae) and Amphibolidae represent primitive, thalassophile Pulmonata with disputed characters (e.g. patelliform shape, NS concentration) and ambiguous affinities.

## 2) Systematic survey of recent Mollusca

In concordance with the above remarks and argumentation, classification of molluscs (defined at p. 1, with primitive organization at p. 13) may be respectively adapted and outlined as follows (cf. Figs. 11, 13, 15; also SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1990a).

*Class Caudofoveata* (Chaetodermamorphs; mud moles): Worm-shaped Mollusca covered by cuticle and aragonitic scales; ventral gliding area reduced, mantle cavity terminal with one pair of ctenidia. Midgut with ventrally separated sac. Sexes separate. Adapted to burrowing habits in muddy sediments; marine in 10 - 7000 m 88 described species in a single order Chaetodermatida (three families); 2 mm - 14 cm in length (cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1985).

*Class Solenogastres* (Ventroplicida, neomeniomorphs; narrowfoot gliders): Mollusca with narrowed body and gliding sole (foot), mantle with cuticle and aragonitic scales and/or spicules; mantle cavity modified, no true ctenidia; radula with pre-ribbon, midgut straight without separate glands. Hermaphroditic. Epibenthic predators of or epi-

zoic on Cnidaria; marine, 5 - 6850 m. Some 185 described species in four orders (Pholidoskepia, Neomeniomorpha, Sterrofulstia, Cavibelonia) according to characters of mantle cover (see Fig. 11); 0.8 mm - 30 cm in length (cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1985).

*Class Placophora* (Polyplacophora, Loricata; chitons): Mollusca with generally flattened body and broad foot, mantle covered with cuticle and spicules, middorsally with eight serial shell plates (valves) enclosing photoreceptive papillae (aesthetes); mantle cavity peripodal with 8-88 pairs of ctenidia. Alimentary tract with esophageal and midgut glands, stomach, looped intestine. Marine, mainly algae-scraping on hard bottoms, 0 - 7000 m. About 600 recent species in three orders (Lepidopleurida, Chitonida = Ischnochitonida, Acanthochitonida), and Chelodida with fossil representatives only; 3 mm - 43 cm (cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1985).

*Class Tryblidia* (Monoplacophora or Galeroconcha partim; neopilinids): Mollusca-Conchifera covered by cap-shaped shell; head with two pairs of appendages, mantle cavity peripodal with 5-6 pairs of modified ctenidia; 5-6 pairs of excretory organs, two pairs of heart auricles and gonads. Marine detritus feeders, 175 - 6500 m; 12-15 species in one family, 1.5 mm - 37 mm (cf. WINGSTRAND, 1985; SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1988a).

*Class Bivalvia* (Pelecypoda, Acephala, Lamellibranchiata; clams/mussels/oysters/scallops/cockles): Mollusca-Conchifera with laterally compressed body, shell middorsally interrupted to form two hinged valves; posterior mantle often extended to form siphons; head with labial palps, foot axe-shape to vermiform, peri-pedal mantle cavity with one pair of ctenidia mostly modified into large plates of lamellae. Buccal mass (jaws and radula) reduced. Predominantly ciliary suspension feeders burrowing in mobile sediments or attached by byssus gland of foot to hard substrata; 0 - 10700 m. About 6000 marine and 2000 limnic species, 1 mm - 1.35 m in size. Three subclasses: Ctenidiobranchia (Nuculida), Palaeobranchia (Solemyida), Autobranchia (lamellibranch and septibranch bivalves) (cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1980a; ALLEN, 1985). Among the latter, most successful

line only the Pteriomorpha (including the fili-branch and pseudolamellibranch bivalves) are synapomorphically delimited, and the Anomalodesmata (Pholadomyacea with Verticordiacea, and Septibranchia) likewise appear to represent a well-defined stock. Classification of other lamellibranch bivalves, however, is still matter of discussion (cf. ALLEN, 1985).

*Class Scaphopoda* (Solenoncha; tusk shells): Mollusca-Conchifera with midventrally fused mantle and tubiform to barrelshaped shell. Head with tubular snout and two bunches of slender tentacles (captacula), foot pointed and cylindrical. No ctenidia or distinct blood vessels, no heart-auricles; radula strongly developed. Marine burrowers in mobile sediments, microcarnivores in 0 - 7000 m. About 350 species in two orders (Dentaliida and Gadilida = Siphonodentaliida with suborders Entaliphomorpha and Gadilimorpha; see Fig. 13), 2 mm - 13.5 cm in length (cf. STEINER, 1990).

*Class Gastropoda* (Limpets, snails, slugs): Mollusca-Conchifera basically with mantle cavity shifted to anterior (torsion), secondarily lateral to terminal ("detorsion"); shell mostly coiled with operculum, or rudimentary; head free with a pair of photoreceptors. Left reproductive organs reduced. About 40000 marine, limnic, and terrestrial species in two subclasses; 0.3 mm - over 1 m in size with an immense ecological and structural variability.

Subclass STREPTONEURA: Predominantly marine limpets or operculate snails; torsion pronounced, with three ganglia in the visceral loop (no parietal ganglia); two orders. Order *Archaeogastropoda* with hypoathroid nervous system: adjacent pleural and pedal ganglia, long cerebro-pleural connectives; tentacles of head with simple nerves, pedal ganglia with one commissure; six suborders (Docoglossa, Cocculiniformia, Neritopsina, Vetigastropoda, Seguenziina, Architaenioglossa). Order *Apogastropoda* with epiarthroid nervous system: adjacent cerebral and pleural ganglia, cerebro-pleural connectives short; tentacle nerve bifurcated, pedal ganglia with second = parapedal commissure; larvae planktotrophic, with secondary shell; three suborders (Caenogastropoda, Valvatina = Ectobranchia, Allogastropo-

da) (cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN & HASZPRUNAR, 1987; HASZPRUNAR, 1988).

Subclass EUTHYNEURA: Marine, limnic, or terrestrial snails and slugs with additional parietal ganglia in the visceral loop (Pentaganglionata), intercrossing of loop mostly annulled by concentration or reversion; primitively with folded secondary gill (plicatidium) and marginal repugnatorial glands; hermaphroditic. The subclass includes two monophyletic lines (see Fig. 15):<sup>(1)</sup> The supraorder *Opisthobranchia* includes the marine groups basically having the paired Hancock's sense organ or their derivatives with the respective innervation in common (see p. 22-23). They may be classified into Tectibranchia and Eleutherobranchia with subgroups as discussed above (pp. 23-24 and Fig. 15). (2) The supraorder *Aeropneusta* includes marine, limnic, and terrestrial shelled and naked snails with synapomorphic procerebrum, cerebral glands and dorsal bodies: Order *Gymnomorpha* (mantle cavity reduced to a 'cloaca', or lost; loss of shell; eyes pedunculated: Onchiida and Soleolifera) and order *Pulmonata* (mantle cavity becomes a 'lung'; with subgroups as discussed p. 26 and defined in Fig. 15).

*Class Siphonopoda* (Cephalopoda; nautilus, cuttlefishes, squids, octopuses): Mollusca-Conchifera with dorso-ventrally elongated body; shell straight, coiled, or regressive, originally chambered and pierced by a siphuncular tube. Head free with a pair of eyes and one or two circles of 8-10 or about 90 tentacles (perioral arms), foot modified as a funnel for jet propulsion, mantle cavity restricted to posterior body with two or four ctenidia. Alimentary tract with strong jaws and predominantly with a rectal ink sac; nervous system extremely concentrated. About 600 recent species (approximately 10000 fossil forms) measuring 1 cm - 8 m in body size (with arms up to 22 m); basically marine carnivores, either pelagic from the surface to 5400 m depth, or benthic to 8100 m. Four subclasses:<sup>(1)</sup> Palcephalopoda (Orthoceroidea; fossil groups),<sup>(2)</sup> Nautiloidea (fossil groups and 3-5 recent species),<sup>(3)</sup> Ammonoidea (fossils only), and (4) Coleoidea with fossils and the three recent orders Vampyromorpha, Octobranchia, and Decabrachia (including the suborders Spirulina, Myopseina with Sepioidea and Loliginoidea, and Oc-

gopseina) (cf. SALVINI-PLAWEN, 1980; BERTHOLD & ENGESER, 1987; TEICHERT, 1988; YOUNG, 1988).

## ORIGEN, FILOGENIA Y CLASIFICACION DEL PHYLUM MOLLUSCA

### Sinopsis

Dentro de los moluscos, tanto los Placofora como los Conchífera datan del Cámbrico Inferior (570-550 m. a.). El registro fósil, no obstante, arroja poca luz al objeto de esclarecer el *ORIGEN* de los moluscos y de dilucidar cómo pudo tener lugar anagenéticamente la diferenciación durante el Precámbrico de sus ocho clases existentes. Su evolución, por lo tanto, preferentemente ha de basarse en los datos de la anatomía comparada y de la ontogenia. Por otra parte, los datos procedentes de la Biología molecular son todavía ambiguos.

Teniendo presente los Caudofoveata y los Solenogastres, de los que no hay registro fósil y, cuyo estudio tradicionalmente ha sido negligido, la anatomía comparada de los moluscos sugiere que su punto de arranque común (los arquimoluscos), sin duda mostraban una configuración aplacófora. Su organización supondría: Locomoción ciliar, cavidad paleal, verosímilmente posterior en forma de U (con un par de ctenidios, tractos mucosos, etc.) y una posible nutrición a base de animales blandos. Los datos extraídos del desarrollo y de la reproducción permiten suponer que las larvas del tipo lecitotrófico (Pericalymma) con organización mesenquimática serían las primitivas. Estas relaciones parecen revelar preferentemente que los moluscos pudieron diferenciarse, más bien a partir de organismos diminutos (1-5 mm de tamaño) con organización platelmintomorfa que habrían esbozado una cubierta paleal, que a partir de organismos fosores celomados (segmentados o no).

A lo largo de la *FILOGENIA*, el acontecimiento más obvio de la radiación evolutiva de los moluscos lo constituye el desarrollo de la cubierta paleal que defina los niveles de organización aplacófora, poliaplacófora y (por integración) monoplacófora. Esta secuencia es concomitante con la regresión de los sistemas musculares subpaleal y longitudinal-marginal y con la concentración progresiva de la musculatura dorsoventral. Los Caudofoveata y los Solenogastres en virtud de la configuración del

manto y la cavidad paleal reflejan dos líneas parafiléticas separadas. Los Solenogastres, esencialmente carnívoros, parecen estar relacionados por ciertos rasgos de su desarrollo con los Placofora, si bien han conservado el tracto digestivo arcaico (con membrana radular rudimentaria, intestino medio sacciforme y voluminoso sin glándula digestiva disociada). Este último, en los Placófora se diferencia en: faringe, esófago provisto de un par de sacos glandulares, estómago con un par de glándulas digestivas e intestino delgado; organización ésta, que será transmitida al nivel monoplacóforo (= Conchífera). Así mismo, el órgano subradular, la doble disposición octoserial de la musculatura dorsoventral, la estructura trilaminar de la concha que incluye papilas paleales, así como el sistema excretor (los emuntorios) constituyen la prueba del legado poliaplacóforo de los Tryblidia ("Monoplacophora"), los cuales representan el nivel más primitivo de los Conchifera. Las limitaciones metabólicas inherentes al hábito adhesivo, característico de los Placophora vivientes, determinaron fenómenos selectivos que motivaron el aumento del número de ctenidios y la prolongación anterior de los órganos emuntorios. Similarmente, el confinamiento de los Tryblidia actuales en "hábitats refugio" explicará no sólo la multiplicación de los ctenidios, sino también la división del corazón y la subdivisión de los emuntorios. Una vez formados los Conchifera primitivos, dotados ya de tentáculos cefálicos, formaciones mandibulares, estómago provisto de un saco portador de proto-estilo, estatocistos y comisura visceral subrectal, se habrían escindido en las dos líneas anagenéticas actualmente existentes:

(1) Los Loboconcha (o Diasoma), donde se incluyen los Bivalvia y los Scaphopoda, así como su eslabón intermedio, los extinguidos Rostroconcha, que muestran el manto y la concha expandidos lateralmente envolviendo las partes blandas, y un pie anterior alargado, bien adaptado para vivir en fondos blandos.

(2) Los Visceroconcha, que incluyen los Gastropoda (marcados por la torsión) y los Siphonopoda (impropiamente denominados Cefalopoda, pues sus brazos prensores presentan una innervación predominantemente cerebral, más que pedal) están provistos de cabeza individualizada (con fotoreceptores cerebrales), separada de la masa visceral recubierta por el manto y protegido por la

concha, cavidad paleal posterior, cordones nerviosos laterales/pleurales emplazados mesialmente con relación a la musculatura dorsoventral, y un sistema muscular antagonístico tridimensional de músculos correlativos.

En lo que concierne a la *CLASIFICACION*, los descubrimientos actuales y la reconsideración de los datos de la organización interna sobre los diferentes grupos de moluscos revelan varios aspectos nuevos esenciales. Estos implican ciertos cambios en la sistemática de los Scaphopoda, de los Bivalvia y de los Siphonopoda, aunque las consecuencias más decisivas se refieren a la reorganización sistemática de los Gastropoda. Por último, los términos "Aplacophora", "Amphineura" y "Protobranchia" actualmente carecen de valor taxonómico.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The autor is grateful to his colleague Dr. Michael Stachowitsch (Universität Wien) for critically reading the English manuscript.

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